

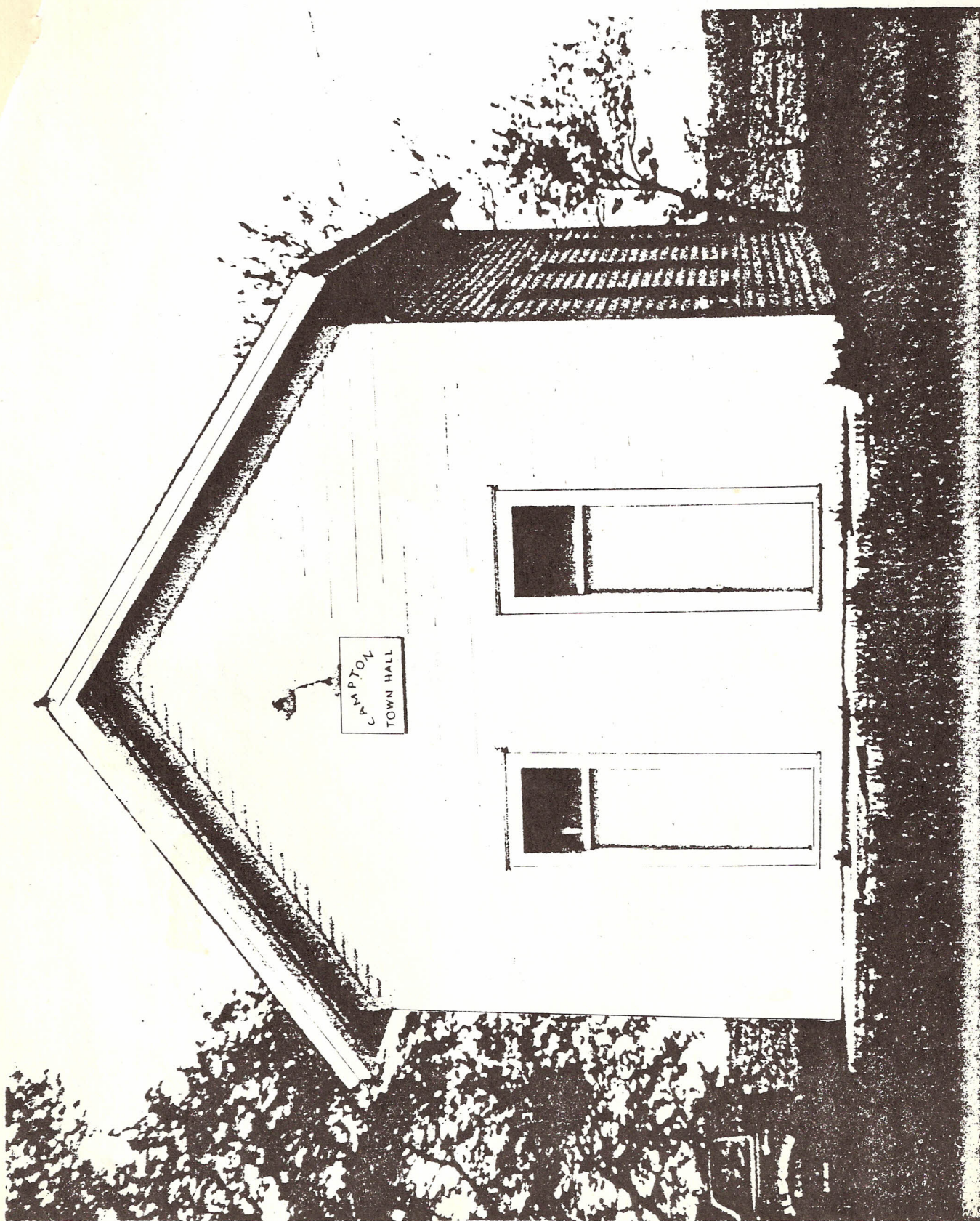
Vern Abrahamson

CAMPTON TOWNSHIP

1835-1976

May 1976







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## INTRODUCTION

The source for much of the early historical material on Campton Township was taken from *Past and Present of Kane County*, published in 1878. Two Kane County atlases, published in 1871 and 1892, were especially helpful in showing the development of the township. Kane County histories, published in 1888 and 1908, gave considerable biographical data concerning the early settlers.

Many local residents contributed important information. We are indebted to Elva Garfield, Frank Richmond, George Vanderhoof and Ellis Johnson for their interesting stories of the early days. Mrs. Eric Johnson and Mrs. Maurice Craft furnished much of the material concerning Lily Lake, while reproductions of old clippings from Lotten Swanberg's scrapbook reveal much about the years in Campton between 1920 and 1950. Paul Waterhouse, Mrs. John Brown, Mrs. Dexter Norton, Mrs. Terry Bowgren and Mrs. Calvin Cray were helpful in dealing with the Wasco area.

Since it is impossible to cover all the important events and people who have made up the history of Campton Township since 1835, we have attempted only to give a rather general picture of the whole period. Perhaps this survey may encourage others to make a more intensive study of special places and events that are merely suggested here.

Compiled and edited by  
Lucinda Corron



## CAMPTON TOWNSHIP HISTORY

When the first settlers arrived in this area in the spring of 1835, they found a wilderness of woodlands and prairie grass, inhabited by all kinds of wild life and some Indians. At that time there were only a few hundred people living in Chicago, but Galena, in the western part of the state, was a busy city, having been settled in about 1827 because of the government's interest in the lead mines. Aurora was settled in 1834; St. Charles in 1833; and Geneva, then called Herrington's Ford was settled in 1834 and had the only post office in the area.

In 1835 there were two roads passing through the township -- the St. Charles and Galena Road (now known as the Burlington Road) and "an Indian trail extended across it on the south from Ohio Grove, thence past Lily Lake, across the Robert Garfield farm, thence through the lot now occupied by the cemetery to a point about a mile and a half east, where it branched, one fork bearing southward to Waubansie Town and the other reaching the river a little south of St. Charles."<sup>1</sup>

Though there were Indians living in the region at this time, they offered no threat to the newcomers as they were mild mannered and inclined to be afraid of the white man. According to the early settlers, the Indians would steal food from their cabins when the settlers were away hunting. In 1836 when the government ordered all the Indians sent to a reservation, several of the early settlers helped in their removal across the Mississippi River.

Under the provisions of the Act of Congress of April 1820 entitled "An act making further provision for the sale of Public Lands," the early pioneers staked out their claim to the land on which they hoped to build their homes. The law provided that they clear the land, establish homes and when the land was put on sale in the land grant office in Chicago, they would be permitted to purchase it at \$1.25 per acre.

John Beatty, who had come from Crawford County, Pennsylvania to Chicago in 1834, came first to Geneva and then to what is now Campton Township in March of 1835. He staked out his first claim in Section 36, but later located in Sections 26 and 35 and built the first log cabin in Campton near what is now Highway 38 and LaFox Road. However, Beatty did not actually live in the township until the following year. It is believed that he plowed the first furrow here and hired out to the early settlers, breaking up the tough prairie grass. In this difficult job Beatty used six yokes of oxen, charging \$3.50 per acre.

Several other pioneers located here in 1835: John Whitney came to Section 14; Robert Corron staked his claim in Section 2; Luke Pike, in Sections 21 and 22 (later taken over by the Chaffees); James Hackett, Sections 20 and 21; Culverson, Section 35 (later the property of Timothy

Garfield); Charles Babcock, Section 20 (the John Stewart farm); and James Outhouse, Section 18. By 1836 many more newcomers had arrived. A settlement was established at King's Mill (now Campton Lake) by Dr. King, a minister and doctor. A little later Canada Corners (now Lily Lake) was settled, with many of its early residents coming here from Canada. In 1837 occurred the first death in the township, that of Mrs. Burgess who was buried near King's Mill. The first marriage was solemnized in 1838 between Mark Whitney and Caroline Ward.

When the first settlers arrived there were no political divisions, but in 1837 the first elections were held. At that time Kane County was divided into four precincts -- Fox River, Sandusky, Lake and Fairfield. Residents from Campton, Plato and parts of Burlington and Virgil voted in the Fairfield precinct, and 22 votes were cast in 1837. However in those days any citizen of the county could vote in whatever precinct he happened to be at election time. Elias Crary, Joel Harvey and James Corron served as judges on the board, while Stephen Archer and Henry K. Bartlett were clerks. The residents of this area continued to vote in the Fairfield precinct until 1848 when the state of Illinois was divided into townships. In 1849 it was discovered there was another Fairfield in the state, and the name was changed to Milo. However a year later when Joseph P. Bartlett became the first supervisor, the township received its present name of Campton, probably named for Bartlett's home town in New Hampshire. In the years that followed town meetings were held in the house of Eber Chaffee and afterwards in various school houses.

"In 1874, the inhabitants, with their characteristic enterprise, having determined to adopt a permanent location for the future, erected a beautiful town house now in use. It stands upon Section 22, is a frame building, and with its clean white walls contrasted with its dark green blinds, presents a peculiarly neat appearance, and may be taken as a model country town house. But few of the townships in the county, west of the river, possess buildings erected for a similar purpose."<sup>2</sup>

The early residents of the township were determined their children should have a good education, and the first school was held in the log cabin of James Ward in 1837-38, with Miss Lee of Plato as the teacher. A year later a log school house was built near the Wasco Cemetery. In 1841 Eber Chaffee, Charles Fletcher, Thomas Dodge, Ansel Lake and Hylas Currier, with Nelson Walker as clerk, served as the Board of Trustees for the six school districts in the township. In 1852 the children in the Whitney district marched from the old log school house down the road to the newly-built frame school building, later called the White School, located on the corner of the Burlington and Wasco Roads. Another school was the Stone School on Silver Glen Road just east of Corron Road, where the Van Tassels now live.

<sup>1</sup> Past and Present of Kane County, p. 466

<sup>2</sup> Past and Present of Kane County, p. 468



Pupils in the northwest part of the township attended the Gray Willow School, at the junction of Silver Glen and the Burlington Roads. The Lily Lake School at that time was about a half mile east of Canada Corners on the north side of Empire Road. In the southwest corner of the township was the Stewart School on the corner of Route 47 and Beith Road, and in the southeast was the Old Red School house on Campton Hills Road, a short distance east of Town Hall Road. Any young people who wanted further education had to go to high schools in the river towns or to private schools.

In 1906 a two story brick school house was built in Wasco, and the White School, the Old Red School, and the Stone School consolidated. The Gray Willow School remained open until the 1940's, at which time most of those pupils transferred to Wasco. Also housed in the Wasco building was a two year high school, which continued to serve the community until 1938. Since Wasco was a non-high school district at that time, the young people could continue their high school education wherever they chose with the district paying their tuition. In line with school consolidation throughout the state, in 1850 Wasco became a part of the St. Charles School District 303. Since that time a Campton resident has usually served on the St. Charles school board. Dexter Norton, Joe Anderson, Ellis Johnson, William Barth and Robert Mann are among those who have served their community in this capacity.

In the western part of the township four schools -- the Stewart School, the Lily Lake School east of the village, another west of the village, and the fourth school a mile north on Highway 47 -- were consolidated in 1918 to make up the present Lily Lake School. For several years this school also offered a two year high school, and from this non-high school district most of the Campton young people continued their education at Elburn, St. Charles, Plato or any other high school of their choice. With consolidation in 1950, the Lily Lake area was divided -- the southern part going into the Kaneland District 302 and the northern part into Central District 301. Several Lily Lake residents have served on the Central school board: Lloyd Mason, Ralph Reed, Elof Strom and George Turner.

The early settlers were God-fearing people, and at first they worshipped in their homes. Itinerant ministers traveled from one community to another bringing the Word of God to the pioneers. A Baptist congregation was organized at King's Mill in 1838, and for some time they worshipped in a log dwelling. Very early a Congregational group met in the southwestern part of the township. This was known as the New Hampshire settlement, and though they didn't build a church, the New Hampshire Cemetery serves as a reminder of this early religious group. In 1872 a church was built at Lily Lake by the Methodists and the Baptists. When the Wasco Church was built in 1891, the Baptists left the Lily Lake Church, but the Methodists continued to use the building until 1914 when it was taken over by the Congregationalists who still worship there. The Methodists also met at the Stone School until the Corron Church (also

known as the Plato-Campton Church) was built in 1885. By the 1920's many of the Methodists had transferred to the Plato or South Elgin Methodist Churches, so the church was closed and later taken down.

The growing Swedish population in the Lily Lake area wanted their own church, so the Grace Lutheran Church was organized in 1894. By 1960 the congregation had become so large that a new building was erected, and today a very beautiful and modern Grace Lutheran Church in Lily Lake serves, not only many of the residents of Campton Township, but also those from Blackberry, St. Charles, Virgil and Plato. Many Campton people attend the Lily Lake Mission Covenant Church, which was also organized in 1894 and is located north of Lily Lake in Plato Township.

Public houses or hotels were very important for the pioneers as they traveled westward, and in the early days Campton had several. Elias Crary's log cabin on the St. Charles -- Galena Road in the northwest part of the township served as an inn in the 1830's. Later he built a frame house, (now the site of the Verner Dahlstrom home) which he used as a hotel for many years. In the 1840's Timothy Garfield on the St. Charles -- Sycamore Road opened his house to the public. An inn called the Fairfield Exchange was operated by B. D. Mallory on the east edge of Campton (near the Norton home). In the southwest part of the township the Warnes also served travelers who needed lodging. In the 1840's there were forty one hotels between Campton Township and Randolph Street in Chicago.<sup>1</sup> Today there is only one public lodging place in Campton Township -- the Little Bohemia Motel. The coming of the railroads and the automobiles lessened the need for hotels.

In the 1870's the largest village in the township was Canada Corners. At that time there was a church, school house, store, two blacksmith shops, a paint shop and fourteen dwellings. To the south was a small lake or pond, where according to early residents, lilies grew in great abundance. At that time what is now Campton Hills Road continued west past Anderson Road, south of the lake to Welter Road, and thence to Sycamore. The Oregon Road, which was built soon after the earliest settlers arrived here, branched off the Burlington at LaFox Road, then Brown Road, on Route 64 to Hansen Road, through Canada Corners on the I. C. Trail, connecting with the Old State Road in DeKalb County, and on to Oregon. When the Great Western Railroad crossed the township, the towns of Canada Corners and Lily Lake combined to form the present village of Lily Lake. Highway 38 was paved early in the twenties, but the new road followed much the same route as that taken by the early pioneers as they traveled west. However, in 1928, when Route 64 was built in Campton Township, the road from Hansen Road west to Virgil, and from Wasco Road east to the Burlington, was completely new. Route 47, built in the early thirties, followed the road as it was laid out by the first residents of the township. Today the county and local highways, as well as the three state roads, give Campton one of the finest network of roads in the country.

<sup>1</sup> Past and Present of Kane County, p. 468



The first post office, originally called Fairfield and later Swinton, was kept by Henry Warne. It was later moved to Blackberry. Similarly, the post office originally located at King's Mill was moved to Gray Willow. In the 1870's there were two post offices in Campton Township -- one at Gray Willow and the other called Campton at Canada Corners. However Campton residents were also served by post offices in St. Charles, Elgin and Blackberry.

The greatest change in the township as a whole was effected in 1885 by the building of the Great Western Railroad. A depot was built in what would soon become the town of Wasco and another at Lily Lake. Soon after post offices were established, furnishing the beginnings around which these two villages would grow. The railroad served the township faithfully for half a century, but in the 1940's the passenger service was discontinued, and after that its decline was rapid. The first depot in Wasco burned around the turn of the century, and the second is now the home of the Wasco Legion. The Northwestern Railroad now owns the Great Western line.

When the railroad was put through in Wasco, George Bergland opened a store, which proved to be an important influence in the life of that village over the next fifty years. After Floyd Bergland's death in the 1940's, the company was sold to Hummel and Company, who ran the business until this year. Harold Ekstrom now is the postmaster in the recently remodeled Bergland store. Elmer Peterson, son-in-law, of George Bergland, had a machinery business and at one time sold automobiles. Arnold Mather, Lee Mather's father, operated a farm machinery store in the 1920's.

In Lily Lake the post office was discontinued after a short time, but in the early 1900's Winterhalter's Lumber and Feed and Abrahamson's Hardware brought the town considerable business. Abrahamson's Inc. is still a flourishing business, with the third generation now in charge. For many years Ray Reed's grocery store in what was once Canada Corners, was a popular meeting place for the people of Campton Township.

During the early days numerous creameries and cheese factories served the farmers of the area. Larkin Brothers built a cheese factory at Gray Willow in 1868 and later sold it to George Lake. In 1870 Edward Thornton had a butter and cheese factory on the corner of Beith Road and Route 47, and later there was a cheese factory at King's Mill. After the arrival of the railroad, milk factories were built in both Wasco and Lily Lake, but later the farmers shipped their milk in cans directly to Chicago on the milk trains. In the 1930's trucks replaced the trains in delivering the milk cans to Chicago. At present bulk milk trucks take the milk directly from the few individual dairy farms left in Campton and deliver it to a dairy in the area for processing.

Anyone interested in studying the history of the township and its residents may gain much information from visits to the five cemeteries. In the southeast part of Campton is

located Garfield Cemetery, and in the southwest, the New Hampshire Cemetery (sometimes referred to as the Stewart Cemetery) and St. Gall's just north of Elburn. The Wasco Cemetery (once known as the Whitney Cemetery) is located on the Burlington Road just east of LaFox Road. A veteran of the Revolutionary War, Abner Powers, is buried in the Lily Lake Cemetery, which is just north of the village on Route 47. Another early settler, William Bennett and an ancestor of Ellis Johnson, served in the Revolution and is buried in a family cemetery about a quarter of a mile west of Corron Road and just north of the Joe Anderson farm. Unfortunately the bronze historical marker, which was placed on Corron Road in 1942 by the Elgin D.A.R., was stolen a few years ago.

In recent years financial problems have plagued the cemeteries, so, in 1970, at a special town meeting the citizens voted to establish the Campton Township Cemetery Association. At present only two cemeteries -- Wasco and New Hampshire -- are maintained by the Association. However the other cemeteries may avail themselves of this support if or when the need arises. Maurice Craft, Dexter Norton and Carl Miller made up the first committee for the Cemetery Association. Since that time Glenn Stover and Ray Ekstrom have succeeded Craft and Miller on the committee.

In the early 1900's a building just north of the Wasco Church was used by the general public as a meeting place. The downstairs of Millen Hall (sometimes called Bergland Hall) was a shop, while the upstairs provided ample room for community gatherings. During the thirties the Wasco Auto Races were held at The Farm and were very popular with the whole community.

After World War II an American Legion Post was organized in Wasco, and in 1960 the Legion purchased the Great Western depot and moved it to a tract of land which they had purchased on LaFox Road. Four veterans of World War I, Frank Richmond, George Vanderhoof, John Schaeffer and Frank Hagaman, and many area veterans of World War II invested a great deal of hard work and capital to make a fine home of the old depot. The Legion Auxiliary also contributed a great deal to the success of the undertaking. The Legion Home has been useful, not only to its members, but to all the residents of Campton Township. When a second voting precinct was needed in the township, the Town Board was fortunate to be able to obtain the use of the Legion Hall. In recent years the annual town meeting has also been held here. The residents of the entire township can indeed be grateful to the Legion for having made such a fine building available to the general public. In addition, the Legion is largely responsible for the Little League baseball program that has been developed for boys and girls throughout the area. During the past year the Wasco American Legion Post 1195 was renamed the Wesley Johnson Memorial Post 1195, in memory of one of their most faithful members who passed away a year ago.

Lily Lake, too, has had well-planned community programs through the years. In the 1920's the Congregational Ladies'



Aid built a hall where they served dinners to the public and rented the hall for various community activities. When Route 47 was put through in 1931, the hall was moved to the I.C. Trail. Later a basement was put under the church, so the Ladies' Aid sold the building to Carl Miller. The Lily Lake Community Club, which was organized in the early twenties, met in the schoolhouse. It was this club that sponsored the annual Lily Lake Fair, which was a big event in the township for over twenty years. In recent years residents of the community have cooperated to organize a very active Little League for their young people.

In 1974 a group of concerned citizens in Campton decided to do something about improving the condition of the one hundred year old town hall. Accordingly, a committee, composed of John Biddle, Eve Johnson, Brenda Kome, Diane Lawton, Dorothy Lambert and Helen Anderson, has been working hard making money to restore the building to its original condition. In addition, rest room facilities and a new heating unit will be installed to make the old hall more usable. The Campton Town Hall Restoration committee has sponsored several rummage sales which have netted

them almost \$2400, but much remains to be done. All Campton citizens can show their appreciation for the fine work the committee has already done by helping them in every way possible to raise enough money to complete this project in our Bicentennial year.

During the past twenty five years there have been great changes in Campton Township. What was primarily a rural community with some of the finest farming land in the United States, has now become an extension of suburbia. Modern transportation has made it possible for people to enjoy the peace and quiet of living in the country while commuting to their jobs in the cities. The high price of their land has encouraged farmers to sell, and each year finds more and more farm land being subdivided. The 1870 census numbered 960 persons living in Campton Township, and one hundred years later the population has risen to 2152.

In looking back over the past one hundred and forty one years of life in Campton Township we must be impressed with the courage, the faith and the wisdom of our forefathers, and may we always remain true to that heritage.



# CAMPTON PIONEERS 1835 - 1875

<u>Pioneer</u>	<u>Address (1878)</u>	<u>Arrival</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Section</u>
John Beatty	St. Charles	1835	Pennsylvania	26
William Outhouse	Blackberry	1835	Canada	18
James Whitney	St. Charles	1835	DuPage Co., 1833	
			Massachusetts	14
Luke Pike		1835		21, 22
Robert Corron	Campton	1835	Virginia	2
Culverson		1835		35
James Ward	St. Charles	1836	New York	12, 13
George Perry	Elgin	1836	New York	12
Franklin Watkins	Gray Willow	1836	Massachusetts	9
John Hagaman	St. Charles	1836		23
Elias Crary		1836		5
Ansel Lake	Gray Willow	1837	New York	10
Nelson Walker	Gray Willow	1837	New York	6
Harry Eddy	St. Charles	1837	New York	24, 13
Spalding Eddy	St. Charles	1837	New York	13, 14
Joshua Read	Blackberry	1838	Canada	7
Henry Warne	Blackberry	1838	New Jersey	31
Eber Chaffee	Blackberry	1840	Plato, 1839	
			Vermont	21
Timothy Garfield	St. Charles	1841	Vermont	35, 36
Joseph Rice	St. Charles	1842	New Hampshire	23
John R. Tucker	Gray Willow	1842	Virginia	2, 11
Moses C. Richmond	LaFox	1842	Vermont	28
Almond L. Richmond	LaFox	1842	Vermont	28
Joseph P. Bartlett	Blackberry	1843	Winnebago Co., 1839	
			New Hampshire	29
John H. Cook	Gray Willow	1843	England	5, 8
William Peck	Campton	1844	New York	17
John Stewart	Campton	1848	Scotland	20
Garret Norton	St. Charles	1849	DuPage Co., 1839	
			New York	24
Thomas Moulding	Blackberry	1853	England	33
Sidney Lemon	Campton	1854	Massachusetts	23
William Beith	Blackberry	1860	St. Charles, 1844	
			Scotland	28
DeValois Stevens	Elgin	1866	New York	12
Frank Vanderhoof	St. Charles	1866	Aurora, 1859	
			New York	10, 11
August Fischer	St. Charles	1869	Germany	11
George Bergland	St. Charles	1875	Sweden	21, 22

# **CAMPTON TOWNSHIP OFFICERS 1850-1976**

Date	Supervisor	Clerk	Highway Comm.	Assessor	Auditor
1850	J.P. Bartlett				
1851-53	Spalding Eddy				
1854	Josiah Seaton				
1855	Spalding Eddy				
1856	Nelson Walker				
1857-58	John Tucker				
1859-61	J.P. Bartlett				
1862-64	Chas. F. Cone				
1865	Chas. F. Cone	C.E. Foss	E.E. Garfield Cephas Cone	W. Burbanks	Moses Richmond
1866	Chas. F. Cone	C.E. Foss	E.E. Garfield Ansel Lake	W. Burbanks	M. Richmond
1867	J.P. Bartlett	W. Kendall	E.E. Garfield Ansel Lake	W. Burbanks	M. Richmond
1868	J.P. Bartlett	W. Kendall	Cephas Cone	C.E. Foss	M. Richmond
1869	J.P. Bartlett	A. Freeman	J.D. Ward E.E. Garfield E. Thornton	C.E. Foss Geo. Walker W. Kendall	G. Ruddock M. Richmond
1870	J.P. Bartlett	W. Kendall A. Freeman	E.E. Lindsay	Geo. Walker	G. Ruddock M. Richmond
1871-72	Geo. Walker	A. Freeman	E.E. Lindsay J.A. Garfield W.W. Morgan	E.E. Garfield	G. Ruddock
1873	J.P. Bartlett	A. Freeman	E.E. Lindsay J.A. Garfield W.W. Morgan	E. Garfield	A. Gilman
1874	J.P. Bartlett	S. Chaffee	Geo. Scott Dan Whitney	Dan Whitney	A.R. Gilman
1875	Amos Freeman	S. Chaffee	Geo. Scott W. Outhouse D.B. Chaffee	S. Eddy J.P. Bartlett	A.R. Gilman Dan Whitney
1876	A. Freeman	S. Chaffee	J.C. Rice		
1877	Chas. F. Sharp	S. Chaffee	J.C. Rice D.B. Chaffee G. Randell	R. Garfield A.D. Chaffee	Dan Whitney
1878	Daniel Whitney	S. Chaffee	G.H. Cook G.W. Warne D.B. Chaffee	A.D. Chaffee	A.R. Gilman
1879	J.P. Bartlett	S. Chaffee	G.W. Warne G.H. Cook A. Fischer	A. Chaffee	D. Whitney
1880	John Stewart	S. Chaffee	G.W. Warne A. Fischer	A. Chaffee	A.R. Gilman D. Whitney
1881	John Stewart	S. Chaffee	G.W. Warne A.W. Fischer C.H. Cook	C.F. Sharp	D. Whitney
1882	John Stewart	S. Chaffee	D.W. Stevens C.H. Cook	A. Chaffee	A. Kendall C.F. Sharp



Date	Supervisor	Clerk	Highway Comm.	Assessor	Auditor
1883	John Stewart	S. Chaffee	D.W. Stevens Isaac Barber G.H. Cook	L.B. Scott	C.F. Sharp A. Kendall
1884	S.E. Chaffee	Frank Hitchcock	G.H. Cook Isaac Barber D.W. Stevens	L.B. Scott	C.F. Sharp
1885-86	S.E. Chaffee	Hitchcock	Isaac Barber G.H. Cook Wm. Beith	A. Chaffee	C.F. Sharp D. Ketchum
1887	S.E. Chaffee	Hitchcock D. Ketchum	John Worth Isaac Barber Wm. Beith	A. Chaffee	D.T. James E.E. Garfield
1888	S.E. Chaffee	D. Ketchum	A. Moody C.F. Sharp Isaac Barber J.R. Worth	A. Chaffee	D.T. James C. Barber E. Garfield
1889	S.E. Chaffee	Frank Vanderhoof	A. Moody C.F. Sharp	E. Garfield	D.T. James
1890-91	S.E. Chaffee	M. Springer	J.R. Worth C.F. Sharp A. Moody R. Outhouse	E. Garfield	D.T. James
1892	S.E. Chaffee	A. Gilbert	C.F. Sharp R. Outhouse J.R. Worth	E. Garfield	D.T. James
1893	S.E. Chaffee	A. Gilbert	C.F. Sharp A. Moody J.R. Worth	Geo. Cook	E. Garfield
1894-95	S.E. Chaffee	C.E. Hurd	John Worth C.F. Sharp J. Field	Geo. Cook	E. Garfield G. Houghton
1896-97	S.E. Chaffee	C.E. Hurd	J. Field Geo. Bergland C.F. Sharp	D.W. Stevens	G. Houghton A. Burr
1898-99	S.E. Chaffee	Everett Chaffee	C.W. Bolcum E.S. Sharp E.C. Cooley	D.W. Stevens A. Burr	A. Burr D. Stevens
1900	S.E. Chaffee	E. Chaffee Geo. Read	E.C. Cooley C.H. Cook C.W. Bolcum	Geo. Beith	L. McGowan
1901-02	S.E. Chaffee	E. Chaffee	E.S. Sharp G.H. Cook C.W. Bolcum	D.W. Stevens Geo. Beith	A. Chaffee D. Stevens
1903-04	S.E. Chaffee	E. Chaffee	E.S. Sharp G.H. Cook C.W. Bolcum	D.W. Stevens	A. Chaffee
1905	S.E. Chaffee	E. Chaffee	E.S. Sharp A. Mongerson G.H. Cook Peter Johnson	D.W. Stevens	A. Chaffee
1906	D.W. Stevens	E. Chaffee	E.S. Sharp A.J. Mongerson Peter Johnson	W. Kelley	A. Chaffee
1907	D.W. Stevens	E. Chaffee	Peter Johnson A.J. Mongerson A.G. Lofgren	W. Kelley	Roy C. Sharp A. Chaffee



Date	Supervisor	Clerk	Highway Comm.	Assessor	Auditor
1908	D.W. Stevens	Roy Sharp	Peter Johnson A.G. Lofgren A.J. Mongerson	W. Kelley	A. Chaffee B.F. Lake
1909-10	B.F. Lake	Roy Sharp	A.G. Lofgren A.J. Mongerson J.G. Hanson	Geo. Beith	A. Chaffee
1911	John Winterhalter	R.C. Sharp	J. G. Hanson A.G. Lofgren Ed Hawkins	G.A. Beith	A. Chaffee
1912-14	Winterhalter	Roy Sharp	Ed Hawkins A.G. Lofgren John Eliason	W. Kelley	A. Chaffee
1915	Winterhalter	Roy Sharp	Ed Hawkins J.S. Eliason	Geo. Cook	A. Chaffee
1916	Winterhalter	Roy Sharp	Ed Hawkins Albin Shawberg J.S. Eliason	W. Kelley	A. Chaffee
1917	Winterhalter	E. Lofgren	A.G. Bolcum A. Shawberg J. Eliason	D. Stevens	A. Chaffee
1918	Winterhalter	E. Lofgren	C.O. Johnson A. G. Bolcum	D. Stevens	D. Stevens
1919	Winterhalter	F.S. Sharp Adolph Mongerson	A.G. Bolcum	D. Stevens	D. Stevens
1920-23	Winterhalter	Mongerson	A.G. Bolcum	D. Stevens	D. Stevens
1924	Elmer Peterson	Mongerson	A.G. Bolcum	Geo. I. Brown	F. Hagaman
1925-28	E. Peterson	Mongerson	D. Craft	G.I. Brown	F. Hagaman
1929	E. Peterson	Mongerson	D. Craft	G.I. Brown	F. Hagaman
1930-31	E. Peterson	E. Johnson	D. Craft	G.I. Brown	F. Hagaman
1932	E. Peterson	E. Johnson	J.L. McGowan	G.I. Brown	F. Hagaman
1933-36	Abrahamson	E. Johnson	J.L. McGowan	G.I. Brown	F. Hagaman
1937-38	Abrahamson	E. Johnson	J.L. McGowan	G.I. Brown	P. Waterhouse
1939-42	Abrahamson	E. Johnson	P. Johnson	G.I. Brown	Waterhouse
1943-46	Abrahamson	E. Johnson	G. Swanson	G.I. Brown	Waterhouse
1947-48	Abrahamson	E. Johnson	G. Swanson	S. Bowgren	Waterhouse
1949	Abrahamson Robert Corron	E. Johnson	G. Swanson LeRoy Cook	C. Bolcum	Waterhouse
1950-51	R.C. Corron	E. Johnson	LeRoy Cook	C.W. Bolcum	Waterhouse F. Hagaman
1952-60	R.C. Corron	E. Johnson	J.L. McGowan	C.W. Bolcum	Waterhouse F. Hagaman
1961-68	R.C. Corron	E. Johnson	J.L. McGowan	P. Waterhouse	J. Olson Geo. Reed Harold Sharp
1968-71	R.C. Corron	E. Johnson	J.L. McGowan	R. Anderson	John Olson Geo. Reed H.N. Sharp
1972	R.C. Corron	E. Johnson	Wesley Knudson	R. Anderson	Geo. Reed John Olson Carl Miller
1973-76	R.C. Corron	E. Johnson	W. Knudson	Leonard Hawkins	Geo. Reed C. Bowgren W. Warner G. Turner



# BUILDING OF CAMPTON TOWN HALL

1873

June 17	Dorr B. Chaffee — Town Hall site	\$ 25.00
July 7	Archie Moody — building Town House	309.00
July 14	Recorder — recording deed	1.00
July 21	Archie Moody — building Town House	500.00
Aug. 14	Archie Moody — building Town House	100.00
Sep. 22	Archie Moody — building Town House	16.00
Oct. 24	William Warner — table	5.00
Oct. 24	Krum — hooks and rivets	.25
Nov. 18	W. H. Brewster — stove and pipes	14.50

1874

Mar. 13	J. P. Bartlett — deed and fencing	22.87
Apr. 7	C. F. Sharp — building committee	5.25
Mar. 13	S. E. Chaffee — building committee	5.25
Oct. 15	W. R. S. Hunter — services rendered building committee	5.00

1875

Nov. 13	Spalding Eddy — building committee	5.00
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Total Cost \$1014.52

## **CAMPTON TOWNSHIP CENTENNIAL**

**July 4, 1935**

### **Town Officers**

Supervisor, E. M. Abrahamson

Town Clerk, E. L. Johnson

Assessor, G. I. Brown

Highways, J. L. McGowan

Justice of the Peace, F. W. Hagaman

The Town of Campton wishes to thank all of those who served on Committees, our advertisers, those who bought votes in our Queen Contest and our guests for their aid in making this day a grand and glorious success. Mrs. L. E. Wickizer, gen. chairman

### **The Parade**

Starts from Wasco at ten o'clock Standard time, proceeds to the Centennial Grounds (Brown's Woods) and marches once around the Race Track.

### **Eleven o'clock**

Crowning of Her Majesty, The Queen (Gladys Bowgren)

### **Eleven Twenty o'clock**

Reception to the Queen and Her Court

### **One o'clock — Afternoon Program**

Song — "America" . . . . . Morris Whitney

### **Invocation**

Joseph Deletkanic, Pastor, Wasco Community Church

History of Campton Township

Prepared and Presented by Miss Elva Garfield

Dedication of Historical Boulder

Everybody Sing One Verse . . . . . Illinois

The Speaker of the Day . . . . . Hon. J. Paul Kuhn, Batavia

The Star Spangled Banner

Baseball Game 2:30

Softball Game 4:30

Vaudeville on the Midway

Dancing in the Evening

Music by "The Kentucky Mountaineers"



## CAMPTON TOWNSHIP

The township now called Campton has, since earliest printed accounts, enjoyed its location as the geographical center of our county; and the pioneers voted to have the Town House "as near the center of the town as practicable."

This unit of Kane County civilization which we honor today was originally a part of Sandusky Precinct, but in 1837 "Fairfield" was formed and included in 1840, Campton and Plato. The name Fairfield was changed to Milo, apparently very early in 1850; as "Milo," our Town was represented on the first Board of Supervisors, in the spring of 1850.

"In natural beauty and fertility of soil, and the nearly equal distribution of prairie and timberland, in all that goes to make a beautiful and inviting country for the agriculturist, this township is, as well as in locality, a central and favored spot. It is beautiful now, and rich in the products that go to feed a hungry world." (Quoted from the Commemorative Biographical and Historical Record of 1888.)

Our pioneers distinguished themselves as well as this unit of land by erecting a Town House in 1874. Official records prove that plans and hopes for this civic building were actively and thoroughly discussed at a town meeting in 1871. Records of April, 1874, honor the completion of this highly creditable accomplishment.

This house still stands. As a centennial appreciation of Campton's life history, the present residents of the township have erected on the Town House grounds an artistic boulder, bearing a bronze centennial tablet. This boulder was drawn from the woodland now owned by the L. S. Richmond family, and formerly owned by Earle W. Garfield.

Early developments in social and civic affairs prove exceedingly interesting, even to modern readers of records and less formal accounts of Campton's beginnings.

The first public building was a schoolhouse, which was justly recorded as a credit to educational and general social ambitions of the settlers. One log schoolhouse stood on the present site of the Whitney or Wasco Cemetery. Daniel Whitney, whom many of us knew, loved to describe the proud march of the school children and their teacher from this old log house to the new White Schoolhouse building. Several schools were conducted and a formal board of school Trustees was organized in 1841.

The first village was Canada Corners, now Lily Lake. Another was Greystock, now Wasco.

Religion was not neglected. Doctor King, a preacher and physician as well, was the first resident professional gentleman of the town. Near King's Mill, Dr. King and others encouraged and supported a Baptist Society in a log dwelling. The society existed from 1838 to 1872 when the Baptists and Methodists joined forces at Canada Corners. Congregationalists enjoyed a temporary organization. Methodists were in the Eddy district, in a log schoolhouse, then removed to the Corron schoolhouse. In 1872 they, with others, built a Union Church at Canada Corners.

Post offices were of vast importance to all pioneers, eager to hear from their distant homes and friends near the Atlantic Ocean and other points far removed. One office in the southwest of Campton was called Swinton; another was located at King's Mill, and another at Canada Corners.

A general store honored Canada Corners in 1852.

Log taverns flourished before the railroads came. Pioneer husbands and sons recorded well-deserved compliments on the endurance and gracious hospitality of pioneer mothers and daughters, who not only served excellent food, but helped provide ideally happy social atmosphere for weary travelers.

General agriculture was pursued, not only industriously, but with intelligent and grateful appreciation on the part of the Settlers. Dairying and cheese-making developed profitably, and rather scientifically. Several settlers who were brickmakers delighted in erecting brick homes, using clay from their own land.

One most romantic event in the earliest days was the historic removal of the Pottawattomie Indians. This story of the Red Man is beautiful, rather sad, and of social significance to us, in its direct effect upon the establishment of the White Man's permanent home here.

Road building has been a most important activity in the history of all lands and nations. The breaking of our prairie land was difficult because of the tangled growth of grass. Road making also had its corresponding difficulties. The saw mill played its part in preparing planks. A much later transportation development brought some progress, also some regrets to those whose work was suddenly changed by this forward step — the coming of the Minneapolis and Northwestern Railway. This line through "Greystock" and "Canada Corners," is now the familiar "Chicago Great Western."

The progress of our own pioneers was truly inspiring. Way our own progress prove gratitude for all we have very evidently gained from Campton's earliest days and later years!

Written by Miss Elva Garfield, 1935



## CAMPTON TOWNSHIP

### CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

*July 4 — 1935*

Campton citizens and their friends will celebrate the one hundredth anniversary of the settlement of the township Thursday July 4th at The Farm, on route 64, west of Wasco.

The parade will start at Wasco school grounds at 10 o'clock C.S.T., and march to 'The Farm' where a full days entertainment has been arranged by the committee.

Attorney J. Paul Kuhn of Batavia will be the speaker of the day and there will be ball games, races and prizes for all who wish to participate.

One of the features will be announcement of the winner of the popularity contest and the crowning of the Queen.

The children present will be given an opportunity to scramble for 5000 pennies.

The St Charles Drum & Bugle corps will be present and the Burlington and State School bands will furnish music.

## OLD HISTORICAL NOTES FROM CAMPTON TOWNSHIP

"Fairfield" was the name of the land now known as Campton, until the first township organization early in 1850. "Milo" was the first township name, but this was soon changed to Campton on the motion of J. P. Bartlett, the first Supervisor of that unit.

The township distinguished itself by building a Town House, one of the first.

The first public building erected was a school-house which was justly considered a credit to the ideals of the township. The school developments were interesting.

Religion received interesting attention. The first professional gentleman of the 'Town' was Dr King, who was both preacher and physician.

General agricultural development was successful indeed. Tavern business flourished remarkably in log cabins. Road building, cheese making and saw mill activities were early lines on industrial progress.

At least one of the early settlers, John Beatty, helped Capt. Dodson of Geneva in the historic removal of the Pottawotomie Indians.

Some earliest settlers: John Beatty, the Outhouse family, the Corron family, John Whitney, Culverson, Hackett, Pike and Babcock. The very progressive activities of these and the other pioneers will be discussed in the speeches of Centennial day.

Early enjoyable associations with other communities: Haseltine and Bancroft, St Charles; Capt. Dodson, the Herrington and LeBaron families of Geneva; Gliden of DeKalb and the Durant family of early Campton related to Mrs Forrest Crissey, now of Geneva.

Campton's original natural beauty was remarkable and truly appreciated by the pioneers.



## CAMPTON. 1885

The Rev. D. H. Griggs will preach in the church at Canada Corners, next Sunday, at 11 a. m. and 7:30 p. m. Also at the red school house at 2 p. m.

Those who gave orders for fruit trees have been badly swindled. Some of the trees were dead when delivered. It is far better and safer to patronize home nurseries.

We had the heaviest rain on Tuesday that we have had since 1883. Rainfall, 2 1/4 inches. It has given winter grain, oats and grass a fine start. This rain will retard corn planting; very few were ready to plant.

Deacon Powell showed us a corn sheller and grinder, for which he paid \$140. It is of no more value than so much old iron. The agent represented to him that he wanted to introduce the machine into his neighborhood and induced him to sign an order for it, and he could have it on trial. But the order was so drawn that he had to pay for it. Farmers should have nothing to do with traveling agents.

We learn on good authority that Judge Wilson sent a list of the names of the persons he wanted for delegates to the district judicial convention into the late county convention, and that the committee appointed to report the names of delegates, reported to the convention all the names on the list, with the exception of N. N. Ravelin, of Kaneville, and, of course, the convention adopted the report. Now why should so much time be spent in going to caucuses and conventions to choose delegates, when the candidate for office chooses them himself. How much time and money would have been saved by letting Judge Wilson cast the fifteen votes that the county was entitled to in the district convention. We hope the time will soon come, when caucuses and political conventions will be done away, and this wire-pulling and log-rolling will no more be resorted to by office seekers. Judge Wilson himself was opposed to a political convention in 1867, when he was nominated and elected. Probably not one-twentieth of the voters of Kane county took any part in the caucuses that chose delegates to the county convention. Judges ought to be appointed by the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate. We should then have better and more independent judges. They should be retired at 70.

### Notice to Campton Tax-Payers. 1887

I will be at the following places for the collection of taxes on these days: Gray Willow factory, Tuesdays; Canada Corners, Wednesdays; Elburn, Thursdays; St. Charles, Saturdays; at Shepherd's hardware store.

L. McGowan,  
38w4. Collector.

## CAMPTON.

We had a good rally at Mr. Corron's church Saturday evening. Rev. Hull led in prayer and then delivered a characteristically terse and ringing indictment against the grog shop and all parties and politicians who truckle to it. He made some biting allusions to the "temperance proclivities" of the Republican party and the alleged temperance laws of Illinois. Mr. Hull is a first-class stumper. Mr. D. C. Green followed with a pleasant and captivating talk on general topics. The Glee Club did themselves proud.

Mr. Robt. Corron is fixing the road to the church in artistic style. It would be just like him to make it into a perfect avenue.

## Robert Garfield Dead.

Robert Garfield, a well known resident of Kane county, living near Wasco died on Saturday evening at his home. His illness had been of but a few weeks, and was in nature of a liver difficulty.

Last Monday Mr. Garfield was taken to the Sherman hospital at Elgin, and remained until Friday, when the attending physician could give no further hope for recovery.

Mr. Garfield was about 58 years of age. He had lived most of his life on the old Garfield farm. For many years he conducted a hotel between St. Charles and Sycamore.

He was one of a family of eight children, of whom but one is living, Mrs. John Harvey, of La Fox.

Mr. Garfield leaves four daughters, Julia, Elsie, Angy and Ione.

The funeral was held from the home yesterday, over 700 people attending, the burial being in the Garfield cemetery.

O. A. Smith of Geneva was the undertaker in charge.

## WASCO 1917

Wasco, Ill., July 20. — Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence McGowan went to South Elgin Saturday and stayed until Sunday night.

The Red Cross society holds a meeting every two weeks. Quite a number have joined.

Prof. Littlejohn is on the sick list.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Lofgren and child and Lola Millen went to Sycamore Thursday to attend the funeral of William Lofgren's grandfather.

Mrs. Ray McLanathan and her daughter visited at Mrs. Carpenter's last week.

Mrs. Fowler from Spring Valley visited at Mrs. Emma Carpenter's Thursday.

Mrs. Carpenter and daughter visited in Elgin over the Fourth.

Cherry picking is at its best and a heavy crop is being harvested at Wasco.

Friday, August 24, is the date for the Wasco country fair. There will be a home talent entertainment both afternoon and evening. Bring exhibits of fancy work vegetables, fruit and flowers. There will be booths and home cookery. Ice cream and candy on sale. This event takes the place of Old Neighbors' day.

Miss Edna Carpenter has been visiting in Chicago the past few days.

Emil Swanson and two sisters, May and Esther, and Mrs. Fred Swanson motored to Rockford on Saturday afternoon to visit relatives. They also went to see Camp Grant where the troops are stationed for training. They returned home Tuesday from their trip.

## WASCO.

1391

Farmers are busy haying.

Geo. Berglund has purchased a new piano.

Geo. Kimble visited Wasco friends Sunday.

Mrs. Fisher from Indiana is here visiting her sister, Mrs. Hurd.

Our town is rapidly improving by the erecting of a new church, barber shop, and the new store.

Miss Lena Hunnmel's school closed Friday with a picnic at Pottawantama park at St. Charles.

Misses Della and Aggie Dodds from Lena are visiting Miss Clara Fisher and the Misses Petersons.

Geo. Higgins is erecting a new building, which he will soon occupy with a full line of new groceries.

Miss Ida Plumer and Miss Jessie Guley of Springdale, Ark., are visiting the former's sister, Mrs. Theo. Fisher. Miss Ida is on the sick list.

Mrs. Lillie Caves died at her home Saturday evening, after an illness of several months. Her remains were taken to the St. Charles cemetery as a final resting place. The family has the sympathy of the entire community.

The Ladies' Aid society of the Baptist church will give entertainment at the Plato Corners church Friday evening, July 17, for the benefit of the new Baptist church of this place. An interesting program has been prepared.

## NORTH ST. CHARLES. 1377

[Regular Correspondence.]

The Campton branch of the Kane County Bible society held its annual meeting on last Sunday afternoon. The secretary made the report for the past year, showing that the society had disposed of quite a number of bibles. A collection, amounting to \$12, was taken. The society appointed a committee of one in every school district in Campton. The county convention meets at Geneva on the 17th. Mr. J. D. Bartlett was re-elected president; A. Reed, vice president, and D. Chaffee, secretary.

The stone work at the new factory was completed on Saturday, and the entire frame is on the wall, and the skeleton makes quite a show.

Jno. Knowlan has erected a new wing to his house, and will soon be able to spread out.

Oscar Hobb has removed to Gray Willow, and it is hoped he will settle down and hold the fort.

Mark H. Bisby is agent for the Warrior Mower company, Little Falls, New York, and is having good success in selling the celebrated land pulverizer.

## WASCO

John Kiley of the milk train, is taking a vacation. Marshall Carlson is filling his place during his absence.

Mrs. B. F. Lake died Sunday morning at 6 o'clock at her home north of town following many months of ill health here and in California, from which state she recently returned. Besides her husband she leaves two sons, Fred and Frank, and one daughter, Mrs. Herbert Brown of this place. The funeral services were held from the Lake home Tuesday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock. Rev. Cole of Elburn Congregational church conducted the services and interment was at the Whitney cemetery.



## Campton. 1889

Garrit Norton is worse. He retains his mental faculties remarkably. Recently he gave us his political history as a Whig and a Republican. He would like to impress upon the minds of young men the importance of maintaining the supremacy of the Republican party. He is a true patriot, always discharging his duty as a citizen and voter. His grandson, Dr. Samuel Probert, frequently visits him. His daughter, Margaret, takes care of him night and day. Mrs. Norton, though 81 years old, does much of the house work. George Norton has rented his farm.

Ansel Lake died at the residence of his son, B. F. Lake, last Friday, at 4 p. m., aged 78 years, 2 months and 15 days. He had been sick about 3 weeks. He was one of our oldest and best citizens, settling in this town in 1837. He had one of the best farms in the town, and it has been kept in the highest state of cultivation. His funeral sermon was preached by the Rev. McGuffin of St. Charles, on Monday. His remains were interred in the Whitney cemetery. He left two sons and two daughters, who were mourners at his funeral; also his sons-in-law Freeman Elliott, of Nevada, Iowa, and J. A. Garfield.

## CAMPTON. 1885

Thomas Clark is running his steam mill grinding feed nearly every day.

The tile factory is not in operation this winter, owing to the severity of the weather.

Rev. C. K. Colver will preach in the church at Canada Corners next Sunday at 11 a. m. and at 7 p. m. Sunday school after the morning service. Rev. Thomas H. Smithers will preach at 2 p. m.

The changing of the name of the village Blackberry to Elburn has caused much confusion in the postoffice matters. The name of the station and postoffice not being changed, letters directed to Elburn frequently go astray. Mail and express matter should be directed to Blackberry Station heretofore.

Strong hopes are entertained by our people that the new railway from Freeport to Chicago will pass through this town. If it follows the old air line route, it will follow up the valley leading to Lily Lake, on the north side, and after it passes the lake the route will be almost on a dead level to Freeport. Very little grading will have to be done for a distance of twelve miles.

The first five days of this month were very cold, the thermometer ranging from 16 degrees below zero at 7 a. m. The snow now (Wednesday) is fast melting away. On the 10th of Feb. 1885 it was 18 degrees below zero at 7 a. m., 16 degrees below at 12 m., 14 degrees below at 5 p. m., below at 9 p. m. On the 11th it was below zero from the 10th to 22nd inclusive at 7 a. m., except the 15th, when it was 10 above. According to Prof. Manly's forecasts, there will be hard storms about the 17th, 20th and 26th of this month. He says the principal disturbing positions of the planets appear to be the 17th to the 1st, and the 23d to the 26th.

## LILY LAKE CELEBRATION

MANY FROM ELGIN WILL ATTEND  
UNVEILING OF ABNER POWERS  
MONUMENT.

Company E Will Take Part in the Exercises Which Will Take Place Next Week Friday.

Company E of the Third regiment, with the companies from Belvidere and DeKalb, will take part in the unveiling of the handsome granite monument erected at Lily Lake in honor of Abner Powers, a soldier of the American revolution. The local soldiers will leave here at 8 o'clock the morning of July Fourth and will take the Great Western road at St. Charles. Major Gould will probably be in charge of the soldiers.

Abner Powers is one of only five revolutionary soldiers buried in many counties in this part of Illinois. Besides him, one is buried in Lincoln park, Chicago, who at the time of his death was 115 years of age, one is at Millington, one at Oregon, and the remaining one at Freeport. Over the graves of all these, with the exception of Abner Powers, suitable monuments were raised years ago. His grave, without doubt, would have been marked long before with a suitable monument by the Revolutionary societies of Illinois, but it was not discovered until a year ago, when some visitors to Canada Corners cemetery last summer discovered there a broken tombstone of which was exposed a portion on which was cut "1776."

Attention was immediately called to the neglected grave and after a great deal of inquiry it was ascertained that he had a descendant in that vicinity. Mrs. Amanda Caldwell of St. Charles. From a government record which she had in her possession it was learned that he was one of seven brothers who had fought in the war of American Independence. He enlisted in 1876, as a drummer boy, and after two years of service in this capacity, he, with two of his brothers, enlisted in the First New Hampshire Continentals, commanded by Gen. John Stark, the hero of the battle of Bennington, and the husband of the celebrated Molly Stark. He, with all of his brothers, came out of the war uninjured. At the close of the war, with his wife, he moved to Quebec, Canada, and afterwards removed to Fernando county, N. Y. From there they went to the Province of Ontario, and finally, in 1847, came to Kane county.

## Campton.

[December 20, 1886.]

Quite a number of farmers find it difficult to get water enough for their stock.

Henry Carver and Miss Emma Warford of East Virgil, were married on Tuesday last. We congratulate.

Collector McGowen will get his book in a few days. It is stated that the aggregate tax is less this year than it was last.

A very pleasant dance occurred at Millen's hall on Friday evening. The boys, having discovered that they could have one good dance or two fizzes, chose the former.

The patrons of the Canada Corners creamery will meet before long to elect officers for the ensuing year. The election of Mr. Albert Read as salesman would be a fine stroke of policy, since no man possesses the confidence of this community to a greater extent. The farmers here, from a rather rigorous experience, have become pretty vigilant, and should they ever again be caught napping through a system of business jugglery, there will be occasion for surprise.

A good debate occurred at the I. D. Ward school house on Tuesday last. Prohibition was the subject. A good declamation was also rendered by Miss Edith Stevens. Preparations are being made for a big debate two weeks from that date, on the tariff question. If Mr. Corron's church can be secured, as it doubtless can, the debate will occur there. The following gentlemen who are not members will be invited to attend and participate. Messrs. J. P. Bartlett, J. S. Lee, Jr., E. E. and F. G. Garfield, and D. C. Green, of Blackberry. The invited persons will doubtless be allowed to speak on the side they prefer.

The first wedding in Wasco took place at the home of C. W. Millen's Wednesday evening at 7:30. The parties being their daughter Mattie and Chauncey G. Agnew. The bride was becomingly attired in a gown of white cashmere and carried white roses. The bridesmaid, Merna Whitney, was attired in white mull and wore a beautiful bouquet of pink roses. Earle Millen acted as best man. Mrs. Chas. Tanner played the wedding march. Rev. Clutterbuck officiated, the impressive ring ceremony being used. After congratulations a bounteous supper was served, one pretty feature being the bride and groom passing their own cakes. About fifty relatives and friends were present, leaving many useful and beautiful gifts. All their friends join in wishing them happiness and success through life.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

## "Old Neighbor's Day"

at the Wasco Church

**Thursday February 24, 1910**

Program at 10:45 a. m.

### PROGRAM:

- |   |   |   |                            |
|---|---|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Song, "America."                         | - | - | Audience                   |
| 2. Invocation                               | - | - | A. D. Chaffee              |
| 3. Welcome Address                          | - | - | Miss Nettie Anderson       |
| 4. Song                                     | - | - | Choir                      |
| 5. "Lincoln"                                | - | - | N. H. Warren               |
| 6. History of the Wasco Ladies' Aid Society |   |   |                            |
| 7. Music.                                   |   |   |                            |
| 8. The Reading of Letters From Friends.     |   |   |                            |
| 9. Selection from Longfellow                | - | - | Mrs. Cooley                |
| 10. "Washington"                            | - | - | D. W. Stevens              |
| 11. Reading                                 | - | - | Mrs. N. H. Warren          |
| 12. Duet                                    | - | - | Mesdames Higgins and Hubbs |
| 13. Reading                                 | - | - | Mrs. C. Parber             |
| 14. Burning of the Aid Society Note         |   |   |                            |
| 15. Song, "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"     | - | - | Audience                   |

Dinner served by the Ladies Aid Society, 25c and 15c.

ARRANGEMENT COMMITTEE

### From LaFox.

EDITOR VALLEY CHRONICLE:—At the election in Campton Nov. 6th, J. P. Bartlett, Robert Corron, Ansel Lake, Orus Hitchcock, James Outhouse, Dayton Ward, James C. Rice and F. G. Garfield appeared and voted, each and all of whom voted in that town at the presidential election in 1844, the great contest between Henry Clay and James K. Polk wherein Polk won to the discomfiture and astonishment of the great Whig party. Bartlett and Ward voted for Birney; Lake, Corron, Hitchcock and Garfield voted for Henry Clay, while Rice and Outhouse voted for Polk, forty-four years ago. The election was held in Lake's barn, and the voting was *viva voce*, with no sneaky, secret ballot box, with no chance of fraud or ballot stuffing; and the voting went on openly, in the presence of all; and any one could look upon the books before the judges and see just how the vote was running any time during the day. Men in those days were supposed to have the manhood and courage to vote as they pleased, openly and in presence of each other, and frauds in elections were unknown. F. G. G. LaFox, Nov. 19, 1888.

Jefferson and Joseph Tucker, worthy sons of John R. Tucker, live on the old homestead. They have a dairy, set their milk and sell the cream.

The venerable Lakira Barber, an octogenarian, attended the town meeting. He had the pleasure of seeing his worthy son, Isaac, elected commissioner of highways over the caucus nominee.

Mr. Parsons has erected a barn and corn house since we last visited his place. Though he has a small farm, it is well cultivated and everything looks thriving about his premises. He and his wife are hard-working, industrious people.

We are not able to work our lands on account of the frequent rains. Very little plowing has been done. Many of our wells are nearly full of water. Winter rye promises to be a large crop. Pastures look green. The roads are as bad as ever.

We visited, on the first day of April, Robert Corron. We found Mr. McKeller, of Plato, there. Also Joseph Tucker and Mrs. Goodspeed of this town. Mr. Corron was busily engaged grinding feed. We soon learned that it was his 66th birthday, and his excellent wife got up a fine dinner to which the guests did ample justice. Mr. Corron is the oldest settler in this town, having made his claim here 1835. In that year he split rails in the Big Woods. He has one of the best cultivated farms in Campton. He ran the first reaper here. He has a large and commodious building, and all his farming utensils are housed. He threshes his oats with a flail, and feeds the straw to his cattle. Notwithstanding a great deal of sickness in his family, he has, by his untiring industry and economy, accumulated a handsome property. 1162



### Another Old Settler Gone.

In August, 1842, two bachelor brothers came to Campton in search of a home. They stopped at the house of Eber Chaffee (Mrs. Anna Davis Chaffee being a cousin of the strangers). Uncle Eber took them over the country to look for vacant lands, that is, land upon which no squatter had pitched his cabin, also to make the acquaintance of the neighboring settlers, especially those who hailed from Vermont, the newcomers being direct from the Green Mountains, a fact which opened the homes of the "Yankees" of Campton for their hospitality. They selected the south half of section 28 as site of future homes mainly because it was contiguous to the brushy timber which covered a portion of their selection. Paying a small sum to Uncle Simeon Ryder to extinguish his supposed squatter rights in the brushy portion of their selection, the older brother returned to Vermont for the winter while the younger staid by to watch the "claim" and to make payment on the same to "Uncle Sam" as soon as the land embraced in "Range 7 West" should be offered for sale at the register's office in Chicago, which event took place in February 1843.

Thus Almond Deane and Moses C. Richmond became citizens of Campton (then Fairfield), Ill.

Almond Deane Richmond, the subject of this sketch, was born near Belkows Falls, Vermont, December 24, 1814. His desire to return to Vermont was explained a year later when he returned with a New England house-keeper, Hannah Smith, of Grafton, Vt., sister of Ansel Smith who spent some years in St. Charles as teacher, editor and so on during the later '40s; also half sister to Mrs. Daniel Lincoln, late of St. Charles. Their marriage occurring August 17th, 1843, was immediately followed by their departure for the western home, spending the honeymoon investigating the windings of the Erie Canal and great lakes. Accompanied by their aged father Ephraim Richmond they landed at Garfield's log tavern about September 1. Finding the old log school-house in vacation they set up their household goods therein, pending the erection of a habitation on the farm which, up to date, had been occupied by grass only.

Being now joined by the younger brother, Moses C., they soon had a small house and prairie stable ready for occupancy. Meanwhile Moses C. was united in marriage to Susan H. Garfield (Oct. 26, 1843.) The succeeding four years both families occupied the original 2-room dwelling erected as above, the brothers working together early and late to open their farm. To paraphrase Whittier a little an observer could well say for them—

"Each day dawn saw some task begin,  
Each sunset saw it close."

So full of life were they that in the seasons of long evenings Moses invariably worked at his shoe bench until nine or ten o'clock, while "Deane" would accompany the "rat-tat" of the shoe hammer with the notes of the "White Cockade" or "Dog and Gun," repeated for the hundredth or hundred thousandth time, upon a well worn violin.

It may interest some of the readers to know what was deemed necessary for a beginner launching in the farming business in 1843. Here is how it stood with our Yankee friends to wit: Household goods for two couples inside; outside, one yoke of oxen, one cow and one dozen chickens each, one ox-sled, one breaking plow and one second hand wagon, owned and used in company. Small outfit, you say. Aye, but their needs were small, and they purposely kept them so that that might happen which has finally come to pass, to-wit: That those farms opened through their toil should pass through their posterity unvexed by any usurer's mortgage. Nor was theirs a single or even peculiar instance. The old log school-house was a breathing home for parties both before and after their occupancy and with them, wealthy in hopes merely, "Uncle Al" (as he was called by everybody) was as fond of mirth as a school boy; so that in those early days when the school boys of Campton sought to make their annual display (well named exhibitions) he was always there, ready to furnish music in any quantity, and until the smallest boy was satisfied. He was equally ready with his violin at the elder people's gatherings on Christmas and Thanksgiving days. There was still another charm that added to his friendships, and that was the innocent but unflinching honesty that stamped his character through and

through. In his sight his neighbors' rights were as sacred as his own. Living fifty-three years in our midst his name has never yet appeared as plaintiff or defendant in any court of our county. For many years he has suffered growing deafness that made conversation with him very unsatisfactory. In his isolation he sought his own solace, work. A little exposure, a little fever ended his work on the 21st inst.

Six children survive, the wife and mother having passed away on the 16th of March last.

Farewell, old friend; thou art welcome to well earned rest,

"Nor dare we hint  
That kindly nature did him wrong  
Softly to disengage the vital chord."

F. E. GARFIELD.

School report from Campton, District No. 6, for month ending March 18.

Names of those not absent—Anna McGowan, Lottie Stevens, Hattie McGowan, Clara Shaver, Ellsworth Shaver, Pary Stevens, Jennie Mapes.

Not tardy—Anna McGowan, Lottie Stevens, Hattie McGowan, Frankie Ward, Laura Stevens, Pary Stevens, Fred Stevens, Willie Stevens, Johnnie Otte, Willie Otte.

Names on the "Roll of Honor"—Anna McGowan, Lottie Stevens, Hattie McGowan, Clara Shaver, Jennie Mapes, Pary Stevens, Ellsworth Shaver.

The highest average standings for the March examinations, were in the

A class—Anna McGowan.....	97
A class—John Perry.....	97
B class—Myron Corron.....	98
C class—Hattie McGowan.....	95
D class—Ellsworth Shaver.....	89
Chart class—Willie Otte.....	90

Special excellence:—

100 in Penmanship—Anna McGowan, Sydnia Shaver, Frankie Ward.

100 in Spelling—Hattie McGowan, John Perry.

Myron Corron.

100 in Arithmetic—Lottie Stevens, Myron Corron.

100 in Grammar—Elizabeth Coombs, Myron Corron.

100 in Geography—Pary Stevens.

100 in History—Myron Corron.

100 in Physiology—John Perry.

GERTRUDE M. CAMPBELL, Teacher.

Services at the Corron M. E. church next Sabbath at 11 a. m. Subject: "What Shad Be Done with Our Sunday's Milk?" Sabbath school at 12 m.



# Wasco School serving needs since 1906

More than just an educational facility, Wasco School has been a center of activity for the unincorporated area a few miles west of St. Charles since three small country schools were combined into a three-story stone building in 1906.

An example of the school's importance to the community took place during the depression, when each student brought a vegetable each day for a huge kettle of soup. It may have been the forerunner of today's more sophisticated hot lunch program, but during the 1930s it helped unite and ease the burden of families and of some 80 children in the rural area.

Today, Wasco School serves children of a larger area—358 of them from kindergarten through 5th grade—and community activities for which the facility is used during off-school hours range from 4-H Club meetings to county zoning board hearings.

An annual event the community looks forward to and supports faithfully is the barbecue dinner. The Wasco Parent-Teachers Club nets about \$1,500 per year from the barbecue, and proceeds have been used for playground equipment, projectors, tape recorders and other learning center items which could not be acquired with school district funds.

This year, the playground will be lighted and a cement walk will be installed at the bus loading area.

Through 1905, there were three schools in the Wasco district. The Red School had been a temporary home for the Amond Richmond family until they built their home in 1843. It was located south of Wasco, near Campton Hills. Jenny Garfield was one of its teachers.

The White School first was located on the Burlington blacktop but later was moved to Goldenstein's corner by Wasco Road. One of the school's first teachers was Barbara Thompson. A third school, the Stone School, was at Silver Glen and Corron Roads. Two early teachers here were Rosemonde Sécombe and Mrs. G. L. Campbell.

In 1906, the three-story building was erected on the site of the present Wasco School. The upper floor was a two-year high school, separated from the primary grades by a roll-down partition. The partition could be rolled up for school programs and other special events.

The number of high school students was between 14 and 20, and the high school teacher was the principal. The first three teachers in the new school were Elberta Thurba, Miss Adams and Miss Coy.

In 1950, the state eliminated two-year high school programs, and Wasco residents had to decide whether to develop a four-year program or consolidate with another district. The decision was to join the St. Charles district, and Wasco School began a new era with only 1st through 6th grades.

Leonard Thompson was the last high school teacher, and he had been principal. When he left, Esther Johnson became principal. Margaret Johnson, a 3rd grade teacher who was at Wasco during the transition, plans to retire in June.

During the 1950s, enrollment in Wasco School climbed as high as 100, and expansion became necessary. In 1953, three classrooms, a gymnasium and a kitchen were added in what is the oldest part of the present building. Also in 1953, George Peterson became principal.

Enrollment continued to grow. In 1965, the original stone building was demolished, and the present east wing was built to house five classrooms and a library-learning center.

Herb Birk was principal from 1965 through 1968, when Don Erdman held the post for a year. The present administrator, Robert Graham, came in 1969.

A six-room addition was made to the school in 1971, and the number of students reached a high of 409. Some had to be transferred to Richmond School during the 1972-73 and 1973-74 school years before the district's 6th grade classes were consolidated.

**ST. CHARLES CHRONICLE**  
September 11, 1974

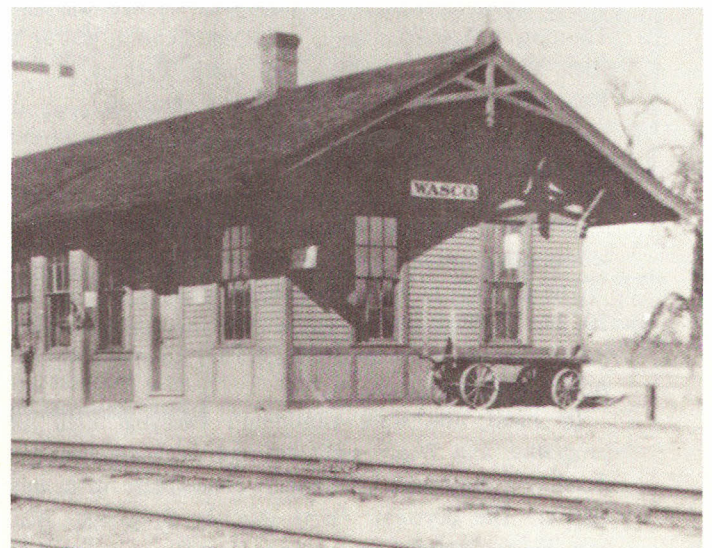




This drawing of the original three-story Wasco School, built in 1906, was done by Dorothy Corron. The structure was razed in 1965 to make way for the present east wing. The addition pictured at left was erected in 1953. Another addition was built in 1971.



First Brick house in Campton. Built by Chaffee in 1842. Now Stahl home on Rt. 64.



Wasco Depot - 1914



About the year 1855 there was a succession of winters when the school taught in the Old Red School House district near Dr. F. Morgan's was very poor indeed. In fact, there might have just as well been no school at all, for all the good there came from it. There was a gang of rowdies or rough necks that took possession of the schoolhouse, teacher and smaller scholars. This rougher element ran things after their own notion, and knocked down and dragged out teachers, scholars, or anything that came in their way.

Among other things, they would take the smaller boys by the feet, with their heads on the ground, and drag them around on the frozen ground, or through the snow, sometimes injuring them severely. On one occasion, Dorr Chaffee was hurt by this treatment. Things grew so bad that the school board was called in for consultation, but this proved of no avail, for as fast as the teacher and scholars were called upon to tell what they knew, or what had happened, the rough element or their spokesman would follow without invitation, and deny every word that had been said. So finally the board became desperate, and determined to find a teacher who could handle the situation, and teach the school properly as it should be taught, or have no school at all. After many inquiries, they heard of a man who would fill the bill. They accordingly went to see him. They liked his appearance. His name was Ed Quackenbush, I believe. He stood six feet three or four inches high, was athletic in build, and would weigh from 180 to 190 pounds, was 35 to 40 years old, spry and active as a Bengal Tiger. The board gave him a description of the school, how it had been handled, etc. They laid the case fairly, and squarely before him, they kept nothing back. They told him that while it was important to be qualified as to education it was just as important to, or more so in this case that he be physically able to handle the situation. He said he not only was qualified as to education, he was quite sure he was physically, so they hired him.

As soon as it was noised around the neighborhood who had been hired, a great curiosity was aroused, especially by the rougher element. At last the day set for commencing the school arrived. All hands were on deck, the teacher, large and small scholars and all were there promptly on time. At precisely nine o'clock the teacher called the school to order, all eyes were centered on him. He stepped up to his desk, and made a little speech. He said he had been hired to teach that school, and that he had been fully advised as to the sort of school that had been taught there for the past two or three winters. He said he believed everybody wanted a good school, and he believed they were going to have one. There was one way to have a good school and only one way, and that was for each and everyone to try to do the right things at all times, and to obey the rules; but he said let what would come, there would be order in the school. During this little speech the whole school was as still as the death chamber. Even the rougher class from the back seats, where they invariably sat, took particular notice. He spoke in a very kindly tone and in no way to antagonize. He then laid down a few rules to be obeyed. There should be no whispering or leaving of seats without permission. Then he opened up for business. The smaller scholars always sat on the front seats, with no desks in

front of them. The schoolhouse was provided with a large box stove for burning wood, as that was the only fuel known at that time. A long poker was also provided, made in the usual way, with a handle on one end, and a hook on the other. The teacher was always his own janitor in those days. About 10 o'clock, the teacher, being very tall, was on his knees fixing the fire, when Ambrose Truman, who sat on the front seat, very innocently whispered, as he had been in the habit of doing in other years. Without saying a word, or getting up from his kneeling position, the teacher reached out with this long poker, hooked it around Ambrose's leg, and hauled him over to him. Then he got up, put his one hand on each side of the boy's head, and tossed him up till his head touched the ceiling (which in those days was rather low). When he came down, he caught him and the boy went to his seat. It did not hurt him a particle, as he afterward said, but it scared the life nearly out of him. The boy probably weighed 50 or 60 pounds and the teacher performed without any more effort than an ordinary man would make in tossing up a baby's rag doll. This caused the big boys and especially the rough necks to look thoroughly surprised. There was from then on a quietness in the schoolroom unknown before in years. At length the noon hour came, after the dinner was over, the boys went out to play. The teacher followed them out to the playground. He seemed altogether a different man on the playground than in the schoolroom. Now boys, he said pleasantly, in the schoolroom I am your teacher, but out here I am not. I want to be one of you, and I want to play with you. Do any of you like to wrestle? All of the boys eyes were suddenly turned in the direction of one large boy. This boy whose name I cannot remember, was well built from an athletic standpoint, and weighed 160 to 170 pounds. He was the champion wrestler of the country for miles around. He had thrown everybody at all the town meetings for miles in every direction. He hesitated to take hold of the teacher, but the other boys urged him on, saying as they did so often, "Oh, you can throw him. You can throw him. You know you can." So finally he locked with the teacher. He tried a few times to trip him, but without success, finally the teacher, after a few feints, threw his hip under the boy and threw him completely over his head, and he would have been hurt had not the teacher eased him down. The teacher asked him to try it again, that that was no beating at all, that the rule was best two out of three times, but, no sir, no amount of coaxing or urging on by the other boys could induce him to take hold again. School called at precisely one o'clock, and the precision in which the whole school marched into the schoolroom and took their respective seats, is seldom seen outside of a military school. The two incidents of the day had made their impression, which, no doubt, the teacher had intended they should. He had started right, and from then on there was never a quieter school. Every scholar who wanted to learn had learned more than they had for the past three years all put together, and everything went off so pleasantly, and the teacher proved himself to be one of the kindest of men, and won the greatest respect from the entire neighborhood. But the best part of the story is yet to come, or should I have said the very worst part of it. A boy by the name of Jim Wilder had, during the bullying campaign, been the decided leader. Everything mean and devilish that a boy could think of, he was up to. He had been the ring leader



in hauling the boys around on the ground and many other tricks, and all teachers owing to his reputation as a bully, had feared to correct him, or tackle him. Thus he held the teachers at bay, and the school in fear, but this winter, through fear only, he had been to all appearance conquered. He was about 18 years old and would weigh probably 170 to 180 pounds and was a hard specimen in every way. As I said above, nothing had happened all winter that was a bit out of order, and finally the last day of school came. It was the custom in those days, especially in country schools, for the teachers, on the last day, to present all scholars with a little memorial of some kind. This usually was a card with words (Reward of Merit) or something similar and the teacher's name and that of the pupil on it, and sometimes the date. It was approaching four o'clock — the time for closing. The cards had all been distributed among the pupils. All the scholars had stacked their books and slates on top of the desk ready to take home as soon as school was dismissed. (Slates were the only thing used to figure on in those days.) (No pupil scarcely ever saw a sheet of paper or lead pencil for figuring on.)

The teacher commenced calling the role, which was the last thing before closing and in a few minutes more school would have been dismissed. The schoolroom was silent as the tomb, and all arms were folded. The desks were three deep all around the room. They were old fashion wooden desks and also held three persons each. Jim Wilder sat in the middle row of the desks and in the middle of the desk, with a boy on either side of him. In order for the middle boy to get out one of the end ones would step into the aisle, and let him out. The teacher had called a few names when Jim, probably thinking his time for making trouble was very short, commenced scratching on his slate very heavy. The dry pine desks acted as a resonator or sound board, and in the stillness of the room, the noise sounded up terribly. The teacher stopped his work and said, "Jim, stop that noise." Jim stopped and the teacher proceeded, and called two or three names, when Jim commenced marking again.

The teacher stopped again and told him to stop the second time. Jim stopped again. The teacher had a few more names called when Jim commenced scratching the third time. The teacher didn't speak again. His desk was about 10 feet from the one in front of Jim. He gave one jump, and I can see him in the air as I write this. He landed squarely by the desk in front of Jim. He did not stop to go down the aisle and take him out the usual way, but reached over the front desk and seized Jim by the coat collar and with one tremendous jerk brot him straight over the front desk and landed him on the floor on his hands and knees. Then he jumped on top of him and pommeled him with his knees and fist unmercifully for a few seconds, then he told him to get up and he obeyed instantly without the slightest hesitation or resistance. As soon as he was up, he told him to get down again, and he did, he jumped on his back again and he pounded him same as before. This was repeated several times, when he told him to go to his seat and behave himself until school was dismissed. And it is needless to say that he obeyed. During all this time the school was in great consternation but as still as death. In a few minutes more the school was dismissed for the season and the scholars wended their way home. Thus closing one of the most successful and profitable and (with the exception of this last unfortunate affair) one of the pleasantest terms of school that had ever been taught in the red schoolhouse. The school board tried their best to hire this man again for the next winter. And altho they offered him quite an increase in salary he said, no never. But by the next winter quite a number of the roughest class had moved away, and several quit going to school, so things gradually quieted down.

By C. O. Morgan  
Northfield, Minn.  
March 23, 1923

(The original of the above account is in the possession of Ellis Johnson.)



## FLAG POLE RAISING – JUNE 1861

As we all know Fort Sumter was fired on on April 12, 1861. The country from one end to the other was excited at once. The good president tried for a time to avert war, but when he saw it was inevitable, he called for volunteers. It was such a new thing, and took everybody so by surprise that for a time the young men were a little slow to enlist, something had to be done and that quickly. So the Republicans arranged themselves into clubs and called themselves Wide-awaks and the Democrats did the same and called themselves Everreadys. They would hold meetings every little while in the small towns such as Canada Corners, now Lily Lake, and Blackberry, now Elburn. They caused thousands of tin torches to be manufactured and would gather in the evening and parade the streets for a while with torches alight and with a brass band and then return to some hall and hear speeches. Finally the idea struck them to make and raise flag poles as there was scarcely one in the country at that time. It was in June when we saw notices posted in different places announcing that there would be a great flag pole raising at Canada Corners on Saturday, June (don't know the date). Everybody came as there would be speeches by distinguished men, a picnic dinner in the grove near by, and a flag pole raised 130 feet high and a flag of stars and stripes containing 60 yards of cloth. When the day arrived, they commenced to congregate and by 10 o'clock there was the biggest crowd the writer ever saw of a country town picnic, but about nine o'clock in the morning the wind commenced to blow, and kept increasing in strength until 11 o'clock when it was blowing a gale as hard or harder than the writer has ever known in Minn., Dakota, or Kansas. In fact it blew so hard that it took the dirt from the prairie and actually colored the ladies dresses black and everybody's face was the color of the darkest Negro. It was really hard to tell your nearest acquaintance when you met him. During the morning the mechanics (one of whom was Alfred Madison) were putting the finishing touches on the pole. A large capstan had been placed and staked down about 100 feet to the windward side of the pole. Some of the men who had the management of the raising thought best to postpone the raising of the pole till the wind had abated, but Numan Barber, who appeared to have charge of the capstan, said "no sir, by the Eternals, that pole is going up today." The long rope was attached to the pole, and capstan, and a dozen or more willing hands were tugging away at the sweep, but the pole failed to start. The people were impatient and wondered what was the matter when the man who had charge of that end of the job suddenly disappeared, and another man took his place. Something was wrong in the hitching of the ropes, but things were now soon under way and the pole in spite of a 60 or 80 mile wind against it was going up. And when fully up was fastened securely. And a shout went up from the people. So strong was the wind that the pole bent terribly and guards were stationed to prevent the people going on

the leeward side of the pole lest if it broke and came down sure death would be the result to these who were under it. Now that the pole was up, came the question, whether or not it would be safe to run up the flag with such a strain already on the pole. It was discussed pro and con for some time, when it was decided to run it up half way. The flag was a big one, the cloth having been donated by the citizens, and the good house wives had sewed it together. When it was half way up, some argued to let it remain there but others said no that would indicate the "halfmast" which would give a feeling of mourning or sadness and they were not at all in that mood. And the shout went out, "hoist her to the top." The guards were now reinforced and to the top it went. And altho the pole bent almost double it did not break, it was made of hickory. About this time the welcome announcement came that dinner was all ready in the grove nearby. So everybody hiked to the grove. There presided over by the ladies of the town and surrounding country was the finest picnic dinner. There was one table at least 150 feet in length, and several shorter ones. After the inner man and inner women had been satisfied, they all returned to the pole which was still standing in spite of the wind. But the latter had not abated in the least, if anything it blew harder than before dinner. Then the speeches commenced and the men appointed to solicit enlistments for the recruits of the army got busy. And when the young men listened to the powerful and exciting talk of the speakers, they went forward and placed their names on the list so fast that it was with difficulty that they were all accommodated, for they were actually crowding one another. There was nothing during the late world war or at least in the part of the country where the writer lives that was any comparison whatever to the excitement that pervaded in every town both large and small in the country in the spring and summer of 1861.

It was drawing toward evening and the last speaker gave a splendid talk chock full of loyalty and he closed with the words, "and I hope and believe with the help of God that whenever this conflict is over, be it sooner or later that we shall see the same stars and stripes floating over our heads as those right up there (pointing to the flag) which we have honored for the last 85 years. And he then sat down. And then the people old, young, and middle aged, let themselves loose and such a cheering and shouting as went up the writer has never heard but a few times in all his long life. Why the very woods fairly shook and the tempest that had raged all day was outdone and sounded in comparison like a mere zephyr. And thus a memorable day came to a close, and the people wended their way home and it was a day that will remain in the writer's memory as long as he lives.

By C. O. Morgan

(The original of the above account is in the possession of Ellis Johnson.)



## LILY LAKE CIVIL WAR FLAG RAISING RECALLED HERE

Some time ago the Herald published an article in regard to the flag raising in Canada Corners, now Lily Lake, during the days of the Civil War. A request was made that anyone remembering it should notify the Herald.

This week, Mrs Emma Kelley of Elburn informed the Herald that she had a little information about it. She had written to several old friends too, and had received one reply, from her late husband's brother, Samuel Kelley, located in Independence, Iowa.

Samuel Kelley is now 88 and Mrs Emma Kelley, 84. She was born in Canada Corners, Feb. 3, 1850, and was about ten years of age at the time of the raising, and remembers

it. Samuel Kelley recalled, in his letter, that they got the pole at Ohio Grove. He remembers three of the six who got it, Hie Walker, Lafe Anderson and Charles Reed. It was placed in the ground just about in front of the home Mr and Mrs Kelley owned in Lily Lake. At the time of course there was no house there. The girls who made the flag were "Aunt Lorina", Flora Kendall and Annie Reed. At the celebration they had a lot of horse back riding exhibitions and that Aunt Lorina and Uncle Wilson, (Kelley), rode together. Samuel Kelley won a running race in this day's events.

How long did the flag pole remain standing?

The population of Canada Corners was estimated at about thirty in those days.

ELBURN HERALD — March 1, 1934



# LILY LAKE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CELEBRATES SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY



The 75th anniversary of the Lily Lake Congregational Church will be observed on Saturday evening and on Sunday morning with a special program and worship service to commemorate this important milestone in the history of the church.

On Saturday evening members of the church will be joined by friends and former pastors of the church at a supper which will be followed by a special program, led by Rev. W. F. Zuurdeeg, present minister, in which tribute will be paid to former pastors and the early members of the church. A period will also be set aside for historical reminiscences by former pastors and members. Greetings will be read from absent members and pastors. Another feature on this program will be the appearance of a male quartet which was popular in the church several years and which includes: Rev. George McClintock, former pastor, now at Big Rock, James Smith of Palatine, Walter Hummel of Polo, and Mahlon Stover of Lily Lake.

Sunday will be observed as World Communion Sunday and the sermon will be delivered by Rev.

A. C. Petrie, a former pastor now at Moline. Participating in the Holy Communion will be former pastors and deacons of the church. Rev. George Gable will give the invocation. A special musical program has been prepared for the occasion. The services will be led by Rev. W. F. Zuurdeeg.

It was in August of 1872 that construction of the church was started at what was then known as Canada Corners. Many of the stones of the foundation of the 28x40 edifice were hauled by wagons, pulled by oxen, from the bed of the Fox River near Batavia.

The cost of the new church amounted to only \$2000 and it was at that time deeded to the trustees for the use of the Methodist Episcopal Church with the reservation that the Baptist denomination would have the right to use the church one-half of the time. The Methodists were to have first choice, the choice being for the year at a time.

Prior to this Canada Corners had been part of a preaching circuit which had included Kaneville,

Maple Park (Lodi), Sugar Grove, Miniam, Bald Mound, Shepherds Tappan, and Blackberry Station. The first official record of this appears in a quarterly conference report made on November 3, 1854. Rev. S. P. Keyes served as presiding elder of this circuit with Rev. W. J. Smith, assisted by Rev. John Mulkey as the circuit preachers.

Among the prominent early officials of the church at this time were men whose names were well known in this area. This group included such men as Simon E. Chaffee, John Scott, Albert Read, Orson Kendall, John H. Cook, A. B. Gilman, and G. Y. Shittler.

When the new church building was constructed in 1872, the Swedish Mission Group also shared in the use of the church facilities. This church, known now as the Mission Covenant Church is located three miles north of Lily Lake.

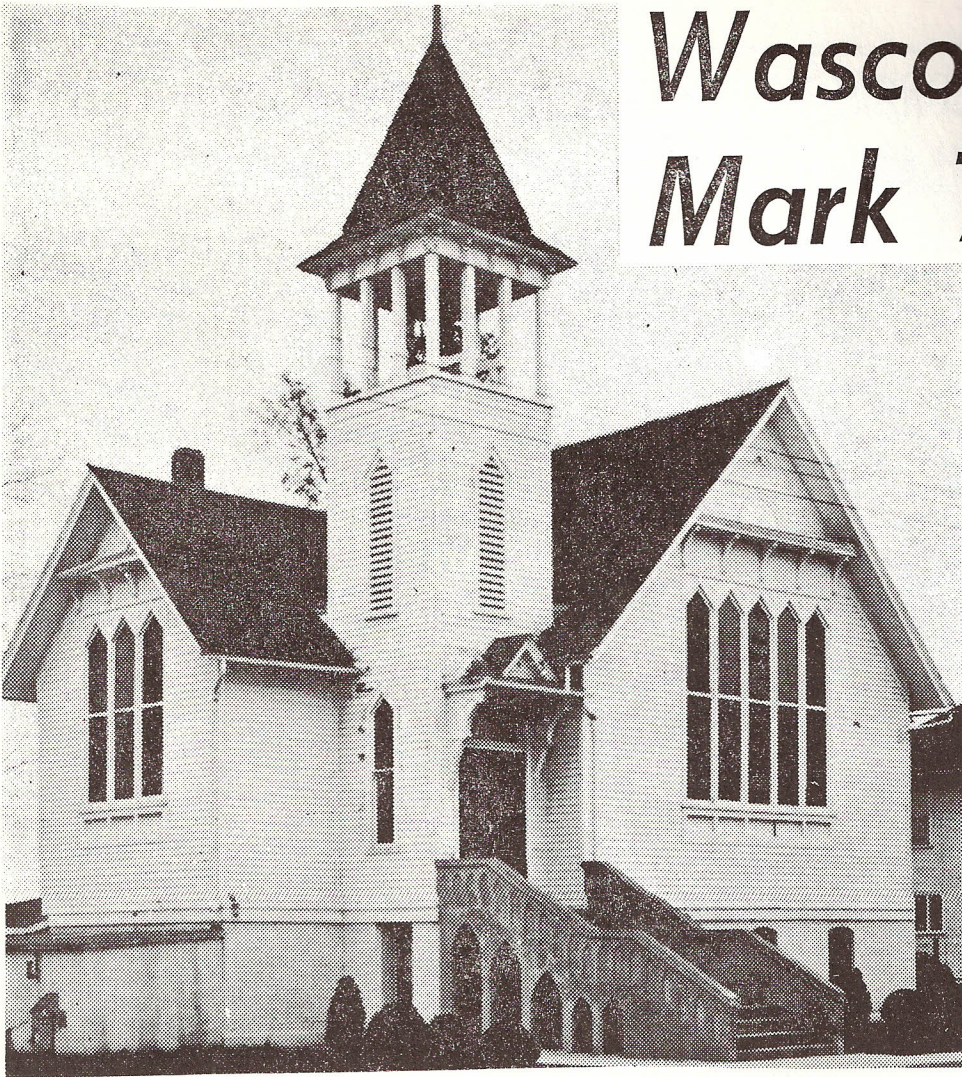
In 1914, with a Rev. Parker as speaker, a very spirited revival meeting was held at the church. At length, after demonstrational questions had been taken in to consideration, the name of Congregational was adopted for the church.

The church enjoyed a strong and healthy growth and in 1947 it became necessary to add to the physical structure to provide for this growth and increased activities. The church was removed from its foundation, and a full basement was excavated and cemented. Twenty feet were added to the north of the church to give more space for the beginners, primary, and junior departments.

The enrollment in the Sunday School has now reached a total of 76 children. Officers of the Sunday School are Richard Meyers, superintendent; Mahlon Stover, assistant superintendent; and John Ramm, secretary and treasurer. Teaching in the Sunday School are Mrs. Maurice Craft, Mrs. Glenn Stover, and Mrs. Claude Ramm.



# Wasco Baptists Mark 75th Year



Wasco Baptist Church will celebrate a belated 75th anniversary starting with services Friday night. The church was built in 1891 at the cost of \$2,773 and included furnishings and decorating. It has recently been re-decorated. In lower photo, the Rev. G. William Bauerlein, pastor of Wasco Baptist Church, looks down from his pulpit into newly-decorated nave of the church. The walls are done in wood paneling and pews are a light oak color. The anniversary will be marked by church services, dinners, and entertainment for three days, starting Friday. (Courier-News Photos)

The original congregation was organized in July, 1890 and the church building was completed in November, 1891 at a total cost for the building, decorating and furnishings of \$2773.

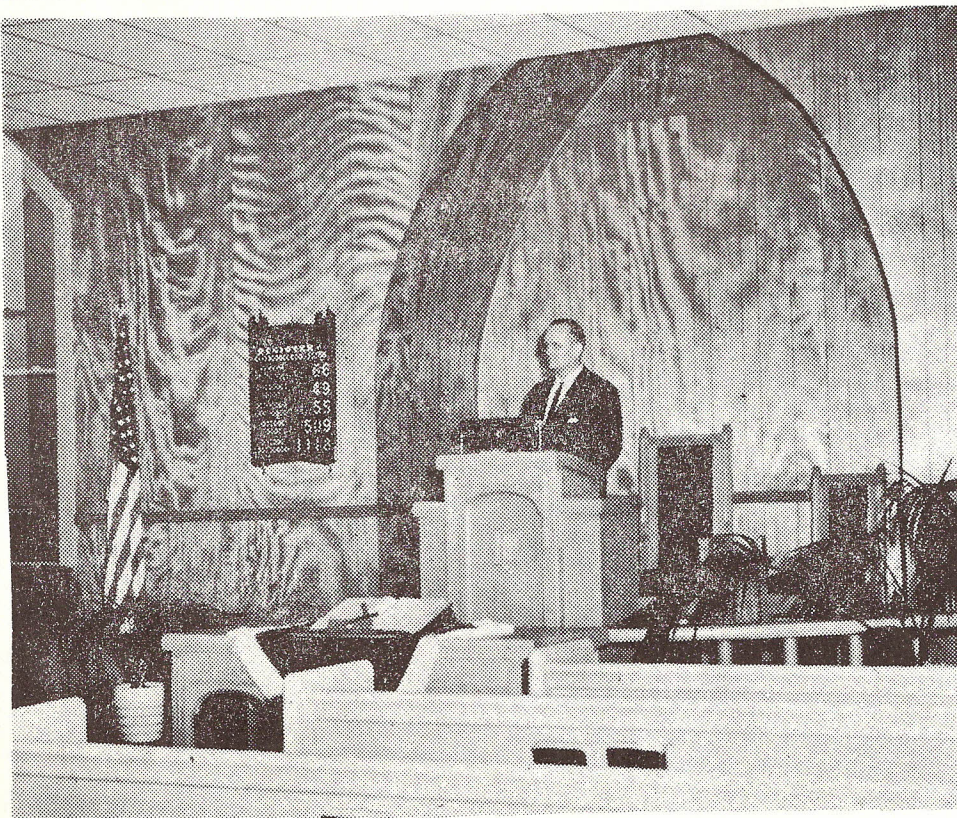
Attending the three-day celebration with the congregation will be seven former pastors and a missionary from Kentucky along with old-timers of the community and former members of the congregation.

During the church's first 50 years in addition to being a center of Christian ministry and fellowship it also served as a training ground for beginning preachers, having some 40 ministers, mostly students, the first 50 years.

Since March of 1957 the church has had full-time pastors. In November, 1955 the congregation purchased the house next door to the church for a parsonage.

The Rev. Mr. David Klasing, presently serving as pastor of Covenant Baptist Church in Margo, has the distinction of having served the longest period of time as pastor at Wasco. He served six years and four months. Mrs. Edna Gray of Wasco has the honor of being a member the longest period of time, 52 years.

The church today maintains a Sunday evening service and a mid-week service in addition to regular services. The Wednesday evening service is for prayer and bible study.





THE BAPTIST CHURCH OF WASCO  
FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY  
1941

**WASCO NEWS**

At the first occasion of the celebration of the Wasco Baptist church Sunday morning, Oct. 12, the present pastor Harold R. Elliott had charge of the service. Jess Horan played for the opening and closing of the services. The choir sang "The Awakening Chorus" and a former quartet of the church consisting of Gertrude Eddy, Gladys Bowgren Olson, Frank Bohlwahn and Morris Whitney, gave two numbers. Rev. Arthur Wickenden of Miami University, Oxford, Ohio, gave the address. The text used was Hebrews 12:1-2. The subject was "The Church." The beautiful day as well as the fall flowers so tastily arranged within, were in harmony with the occasion. At the close of the service the new church bell was dedicated and rung. It was thru the inspiration and efforts of Paul Waterhouse that this bell became a reality.

Former attendants of the church from out of town, attending the services were: Mr. and Mrs. Earl V. Millen, Ruth Isaacson Pirch, Mrs. Clayton Evelein, Sarah Bell Evelein, Mr. and Mrs. Will Lorang, John, Harry and Martha of Elgin, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Millen, Ward Millen of Chicago, Mr. C. W. Bolcum, Olive and Bessie Bolcum, Mrs. Geo. Bricher,

Mrs. R. C. Sharp, Harriet and Gertrude Eddy, Mrs. John N. Bell of St. Charles, Mrs. Martha C. Higgins, Mr. and Mrs. Morris Whitney and Mrs. John McGowan, all of Geneva, Frank Bolwahn, Lois Mae Vanderhoof of Glen Ellyn, Mr. and Mrs. Colclough of Lily Lake, Mrs. John Ramm of Virgil, Mr. and Mrs. Ray Smith of Burlington, Jess Horan of Cortland, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Erickson of Rockford.

The other occasion of the celebration will be a dinner and program Friday evening, Oct. 17th. 1941

These newspaper clippings  
from Miss Esther Johnson

The fiftieth anniversary dinner of the Wasco Baptist church the evening of Oct. 17, was attended by over 200 people. The sumptuous dinner as well as the return of many former attendants of the church added to the pleasure of the occasion. A program followed the dinner.

Mrs. Schneck of St. Charles and Miss Beatrice Johnson entertained with piano selections before the program. Frank Bolwahn of Glen Ellyn also led the audience in singing of several numbers.

Just before the program the pastor of the church rang the new church bell recently installed, tolling it 50 times. The Prelude was played by Miss Beatrice Johnson. The national anthem was sung by the audience. Invocation by Rev. Elliott. Song by a quartet consisting of Miss Gertrude Eddy, Mrs. P. G. Plummer of Lansing, Mich., George I. Brown and C. E. Hawley. Mrs. Plummer who sang the solo part in the song was a member of the first choir of the church fifty years ago.

Following this the pastor made appropriate remarks of the loyalty and faithfulness of the members of the church and a pause of silent remembrance was made for those who were gone after which Miss Gertrude Eddy and Frank Bolwahn sang "When they ring those golden bells for you and me." This was followed by a reading by Miss Ida Harley, a granddaughter of a former charter member of the church.

It was a great satisfaction to the pastor, the members and attendants of this "little church by the side of the road" that everyone joined so

heartily in making the two occasions such a success. The only charter member present was Lottie Stevens Brown, the only other surviving charter member is her father D. W. Stevens who still retains a deep interest in the church in spite of his 98 years.

Miss Elva Garfield of Geneva gave two piano selections. Miss Garfield was a former attendant with her family of this church in its early history. The speaker of the evening was Russel Orr who brought a cheerful and appropriate message. A vocal solo "The Church by the Side of the Road" by Irma Erickson. Messages of greetings were read by Ethel Bell Johnson from many former pastors, members, and attendants of the church. The services were closed with the song "Blessed Be The Tie That Binds."



# GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF LILY LAKE

75th ANNIVERSARY YEAR (1894-1969)

## GLIMPSES OF GRACE

The Grace Lutheran Church of Lily Lake was organized on May 11, 1894 at a meeting held in the school. Quoting from the minutes in translation "The meeting opened with the singing of a hymn and a prayer which was followed by a short sermon by Rev. C. E. Cesander of St. Charles. A congregation was then organized with a membership numbering 21, in accordance with the constitution of the Augustana Synod. A committee was appointed to gather funds for the erection of a church building, this committee being composed of E. H. Carlson, J. M. Steeve and A. G. Lofgren. Mr. John S. Johnson was called to conduct services every other Sunday and Rev. M. Frykman of Sycamore was appointed vice-pastor. Membership dues were to be \$3.00 per year."

During the summer, funds were gathered and the cornerstone was laid Sept. 16, 1894. The church was dedicated Thanksgiving Day in Nov. 1894.

A Young Peoples' Society (later Luther League) was organized in 1896. A Ladies' Aid was organized at an early date too. In the year 1899 these organizations were instrumental in having a furnace installed and the interior and exterior of the building painted. Art glass windows were installed in 1904 and the Altar painting "The Ascension" was given by the lay pastor John S. Johnson in 1913. A piano was given by the Young People in 1918.

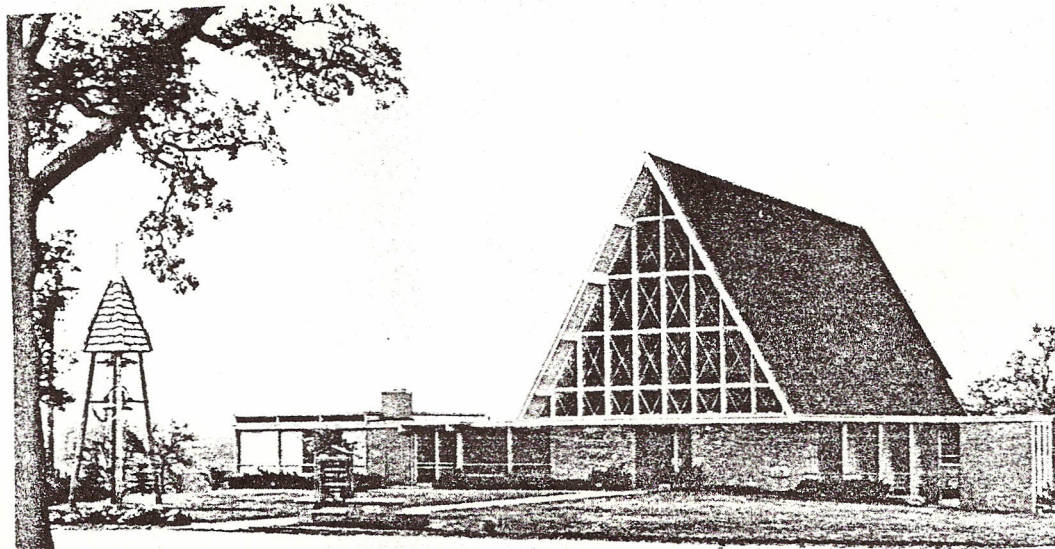
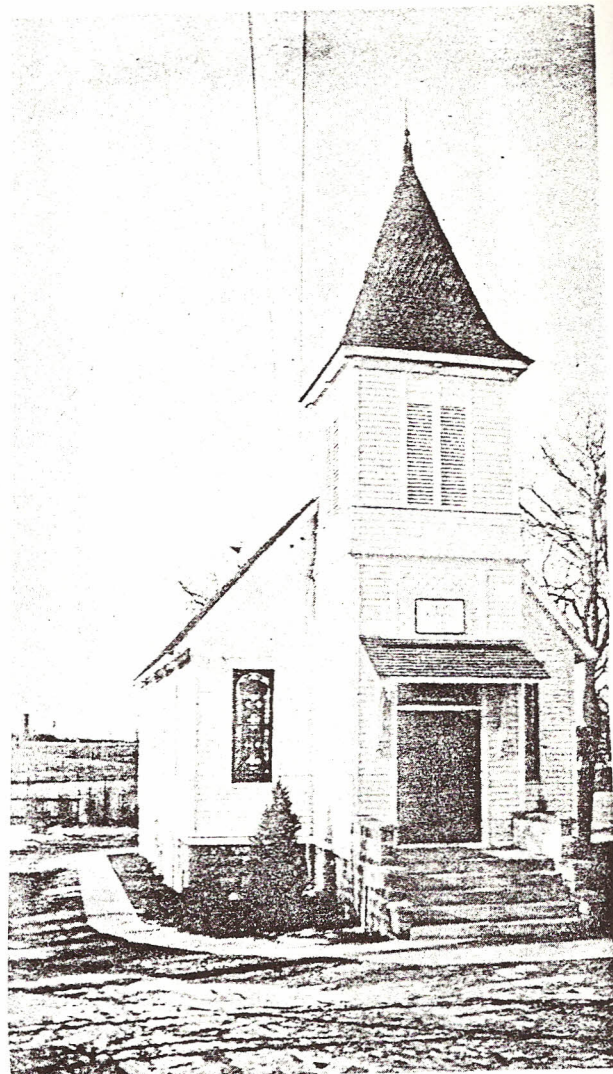
In 1924 the lay pastor Mr. John S. Johnson died after serving the church thirty years. Rev. C. J. Bjork served as interim pastor from 1924 to 1926. Pastor Albert Hemming was called as the first ordained pastor. He was succeeded by Pastor Victor J. Tengwald from 1930 to 1932. Pastor Enquist served from August 1933 to 1938, Pastor John Melvin 1940 to 1943. Pastor Roger P. Oliver served from 1943 to 1946, Dr. C. Albert Lund 1946 to 1948, and Pastor John E. Sutherland 1948 to 1953. Pastor Oliver returned in Nov. 1953 and served until 1960. Pastor Julius L. Peterson served from 1960 until 1965. Pastor Arnold Walker came in 1966 and is serving a growing congregation.

A colonial style house was erected as parsonage in 1940 west of the church adjoining it on land donated by the Andrew Peterson family. Twenty years later a beautiful modern church was built on the land. It was dedicated May 11, 1961. It was built at a cost of \$175,000 which is quite a contrast to the cost of the original church at less than \$1,000.

Buildings have been erected, lives have been touched by God's grace and the building of the congregation goes on. From a membership of 21 it has grown to 284.

Memorials have been added to the church, too. The furnishings of the church remind us of our loved ones - the pews, the altar, candles, pulpit, lectern, the bell tower and many other gifts.

These gifts of God's grace and the varied gifts of grace through our risen Lord Jesus Christ give us substantial reason to "Celebrate Christ's Love".





**CAMPTON TOWNSHIP**  
**Burial Site of Revolutionary Soldier**



This roadside historical marker on the west side of Corron Road, a mile north of the intersection of Burlington and Corron roads, was placed here by the Elgin Chapter of the D.A.R. in 1942 to mark the burial place of Revolutionary soldier William Bennett who died

on February 15, 1846 and his wife, Sally Ward

Bennett who died on May 16, 1844. The actual cemetery is located 8 rods west. Joe K. Anderson, who at one time owned this farm on which the graves are located, had the plot fenced. The plot was a direct grant of the United States government to Bennett as a burial plot for his family.



Here are the graves of William Bennett, Mrs. Bennett and their family in a grove of trees a half a mile

west from Corron road. A fence has been placed around the graves to protect the site with the memorial marker on Corron road.



# Two Illinois Revolutionary Soldiers' Memory Honored

(Other Independence Day features on Editorial Page 4.)

In recognition of America's 191st Independence Day on Tuesday, members of Elgin Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, have hon-

ored anew the memory of two soldiers who fought for independence and rest in Fox Valley graves.

The pioneers who settled in Illinois after serving the fledgling nation in the Revolutionary

war, and who died in this locality more than a century ago, were William Bennett and Abner Powers.

Bennett's grave and that of his wife, Sally Ward Bennett, are in a "God's Acre" plot on

an original government land grant to the Ward family, located just off the Plato Center-Wasco road southwest of Elgin. Bennett died Feb. 15, 1846 and his wife, March 13, 1844.

Powers is buried in nearby Lily Lake cemetery on Route 47. He was born in 1760, died in 1852, and during the Revolutionary war served with American forces in the battles of Bennington, Saratoga and Yorktown. He also spent the tragic winter of 1777-78 with General Washington's beleaguered troops at Valley Forge.

Elgin Chapter, D.A.R., placed the roadside memorial marking the Bennett graves in 1942. Chapter members recall Mrs. George F. Muirhead and Mrs. W. P. Topping served as regents that year, and added it was largely through Mrs. Muirhead's efforts that the Bennett memorial was erected.

In a sense, chapter members who shared in the memorial tribute at the Bennett and Powers gravesites were honoring the memory of family forebears who served the nation in the struggle for independence nearly two centuries ago.

Miss Elsie H. Fletcher, regent of Elgin chapter, numbers Capt. Jonathan Fletcher of the Continental army as an ancestor. Mrs. Walter E. Wilson, chapter treasurer and a past regent, has visited the Oxford, N.Y. gravesite of an ancestor, Jared Hinckley Jr., who saw Revolutionary war service.



Daughters of the American Revolution visit Revolutionary war gravesites in Elgin area. Above, Miss Elsie H. Fletcher, Elgin chapter regent, and Mrs. Walter E. Wilson, from left, at

William Bennett memorial near Plato Center. At right, Mrs. Carl J. Harper and Mrs. James Rockwell, from left, of St. Charles, at Abner Powers' grave in Lily Lake cemetery.

ELGIN COURIER-NEWS  
July 3, 1967



# Leads sketchy in tracing life of Revolutionary War heroes

By RICHARD CRABB

Reconstructing the story of a monument erected 74 years ago and a man who died 124 years ago, even if the man was a soldier of the Revolutionary War, can be difficult.

When we decided two months ago to present the story of Abner Powers, soldier of the Revolution and the remarkable monument that stands over his grave, the monument inscription was all the information we had.

The inscription reads, "Abner Powers, 1760-1852 Bennington, Saratoga, Valley Forge, Yorktown"

There were few newspapers being published in the area in 1852, the year Powers had died, hence there was no obituary available. The date of dedication of the big monument was reported to be July 4, 1904, but that did not prove to be the case.

For days constant inquiry failed to turn up leads, and for a time earlier in the week it appeared that we would not be able to present the background of Abner Powers and his monument.

Our associate, Gladys Larson, who volunteered to help with the inquiry came across a clipping from a newspaper that was an advance story on the dedication of the monument. Unfortunately the clipping gave neither the date nor the newspaper from which it was taken. The clipping noted Benjamin Gould of Elgin would probably command a company of Elgin veterans recently back from the Spanish American War.

When Mrs. Larson reported to Kendall White, Daily Courier-News editor emeritus who had originally suggested this Bicentennial feature, he said that Major and Mrs. Gould lost their lives in the Iroquois Theater disaster that took 600 lives Dec. 31, 1903, hence the dedication of the monument would have taken place July 4 after the Spanish American War veterans returned and at the latest 1903.

A search of newspapers for those years revealed that the dedication took place July 4, 1902, exactly 50 years after the Revolutionary War veteran died. Once that date was established, there followed a rapid succession of developments that unfolded the story.

The Kane County Clerk's office suggested contacting the Conley Funeral Home in Elburn for the name of persons who could help. The funeral home suggested talking to Glen Stover, sexton of the Lily Lake cemetery. Not only was Stover helpful but he suggested consulting Mrs. Robert Corron who recently had compiled a history of Campton Township in which the cemetery is located and Mrs. LeRoy Cook, also of Lily Lake, who Stover knew had a history with an account of the dedication.

Abner Powers, a New Hampshire native who joined the Continental Army at age 15 as a drummer boy and who served at all the places listed on the monument, came to Illinois with his son, Manley, in 1844 at the age of 84. He lived with son and grandchildren in Illinois until his death eight years later.

He was buried at what was then known as the Canada Corners Cemetery, now known as the Lily Lake Cemetery, with a modest headstone. His son, Manley, is buried next to him. M. Gross, superintendent of schools of DeKalb County visited the Lily Lake cemetery. He came across a broken head stone scattered on the grass near a grave. On one section he noted the inscription "1776". He investigated and learned that he was at the grave of a Revolutionary War soldier.

He proposed that there be a new and appropriate monument. A committee was appointed to develop plans, and the 30-foot granite shaft is the result. The Kane County Board, the Elgin DAR and a considerable list of other donors contributed about \$1000. William Outhouse, Elgin's dealer in granite and marble, a descendant of Joshua Read and James Outhouse, two original settlers at Lily Lake, made a large donation of an undisclosed amount to make possible the huge monument.

The granite shaft was quarried in Vermont and shipped in six foot lengths, two to a flat car. The Great Western train stopped on the tracks at the nearest point to the cemetery.

Two granddaughters and a great grandson of Abner Powers attended the July 4, 1902, dedication ceremonies. The granddaughters were Mrs. O. Caldwell and Mrs. Lindsay of St. Charles. The great grandson

was Wesley J. Powers also of St. Charles.

The day following the Elgin Daily News story included these highlights, "At the little station of Lily Lake yesterday fully 30,000 people congregated to witness the unveiling of the monument over the grave of Abner Powers...All the cities and towns in the area united in making the day a memorable event by abandoning their local celebrations... On account of the heat of the day, Drs. Starrett and Wilder turned a tent into a hospital on the grounds and cared for the many who were overcome."

On page 698 of the Kane County History published only two years after the monument was dedicated, this report was included:

"A noble gray granite shaft in severe and imposing symmetry rises thirty feet above its foundation... An immense concourse of people gathered to witness the unveiling and dedication cemetery where the heavy chunks of granite were placed on a special wagon and pulled on a direct route through fields to the cemetery.

The foundation was constructed and a sheet of lead, Stover explains, placed on it with the granite being set on the lead sheet. A lead sheet was placed on top and the next tapering block of granite placed on top until the monument reached 28 feet into the air.

Stover reports that although the monument has been up 74 years, it shows no sign of aging.

At the dedication 8-year-old Gladys Lillibridge, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Lillibridge of St. Charles and a sixth generation granddaughter of Abner Powers, placed flowers on the monument and pulled the cord that drew away the large American flag that draped the granite shaft.

Mrs. Gladys Lillibridge Vurslack is still living. She resides in Rockford. Mrs. Beulah Lillibridge Hough of St. Charles is a younger sister but was present and recalls her sister taking the key role in the dedication ceremonies. of the monument...A beautiful little girl, of the sixth generation in descent from Abner Powers, drew the cord which loosened the great American flag with which it was veiled, and the stately monument stood forth in majestic and enduring beauty.



# Roll of Honor includes soldiers buried in Kane

There are known to be 26 soldiers of the Revolutionary War buried in the five northeastern Illinois counties although the exact location of the graves is not known in all instances.

Kane County with 10 has the most. There are seven graves in DuPage County, five in Cook County and two each in McHenry and Lake counties.

This Roll of Honor listing represents the Bicentennial year report and has been compiled over the years by the Daughters of the American Revolution from family records and reports from the United States Bureau of Census, the U.S. Pension Bureau and the Illinois State Genealogical Society.

All presently reported information is indicated in this listing.

## Kane County

**BENNETT, WILLIAM** — Born May 9, 1758 in Sandown, N.H. Died Feb. 15, 1846. Buried in Vanderhoff cemetery near Wasco. Fought in battle of Fort Ann.

**BENWAY, CHARLES** —

**BROWN, NATHANIEL** — Born in New York state about 1753. Died after 1840. Buried in Batavia Township. Served with New York troops.

**FRINK, C.W.** —

**GRAY, DANIEL S.** — Died in 1855. Buried in Riverside cemetery, Aurora.

**MILLER, W.R.** —

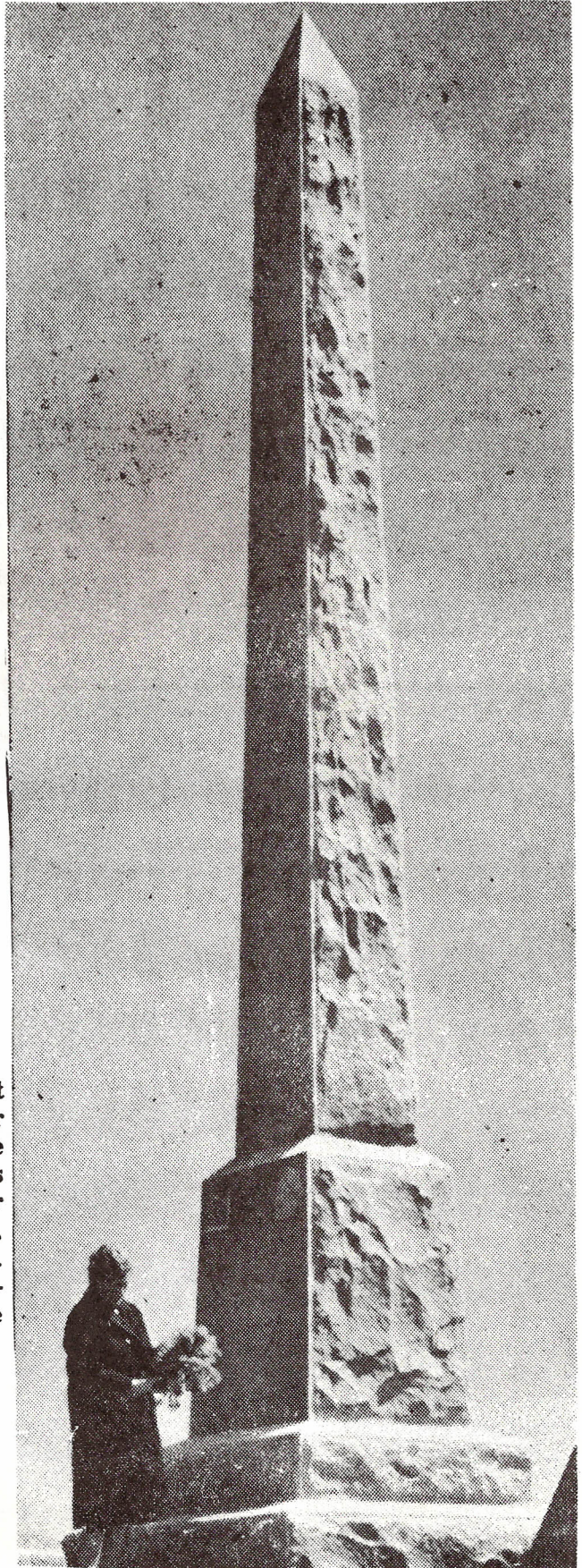
**POWERS, ABNER** — Born Dec. 15, 1760 in Richmond, N.H. Died Sept. 25, 1852 in St. Charles. Buried in Canada Corners cemetery near Lily Lake. Corporal, drummer, saw service at Bennington, Saratoga, Valley Forge, Yorktown.

**SAWINE, SAMUEL** — Served with Massachusetts troops.

**VAUGHN, FREDERICK** — Born Nov. 26, 1766 in Connecticut. Died Aug. 10, 1845. Buried in Spring Lake cemetery, Aurora. Served with Connecticut troops.

**YOUNG, JOSEPH A.** —

Believed to be the most impressive monument marking the grave of any Revolutionary soldier in Illinois, this shaft of granite stands in the Canada Corners Lily Lake Cemetery near Illinois 64 and 47 in Kane County. It honors Abner Powers, a drummer boy at the Battle of Saratoga, who also served at Valley Forge and Yorktown. Mrs. Beulah Hough, a sixth generation granddaughter, of St. Charles stands beside the monument. (Courier-News Photos by Cliff Lohs)





# Friends Come From Afar To Greet Wasco's DeVolois W. Stevens On His 100th Birthday

Mar. 22 - 1943.

They came from near and far over the week-end to wish Comrade DeVolois W. Stevens of Wasco "happy returns of the day" on the occasion of his hundredth birthday anniversary.

Yesterday was the day of days for the Civil war veteran and patriarch of Campton township who has been one of the Fox valley's first citizens since 1865, when he emigrated west from his native New York state.

Family and friends planned the birthday party and what a function it was. Even the Wasco schools were dismissed so that 60 boys and girls there, together with their teachers, could drop over and visit with "Grandpa" Stevens, and sing "Happy Birthday" in his honor. Each of the students also personally made and mailed the honored guest a birthday greeting card.

The Stevens family home was decorated in red, white and blue bunting, and a large festooned "100" hung from the living room ceiling. The American flag flew from a pole in the yard of the home, and another hung from a standard beside the veteran's favorite chair. Residents of the village sent a huge basket of flowers, and also displayed the flag as a mark of respect for the anniversary occasion.

Parry M. Stevens of Youngsdale,



—Courler-News Photo

## DE VOLOIS W. STEVENS

a son of the honoree, and Mrs. Clara Smith of Burlington, a daughter, greeted the some 250 guests who called during the Sunday and Monday open house periods. "Grandpa" Stevens personally shook hands with each well-wisher. Grandchildren served refreshments to the guests, including generous slices of decorated birthday cake.

Guests were present from Elgin, Aurora, St. Charles, Chicago, Waukegan, and Wheaton among other communities. Each signed the guest register, and received a card with Mr. Stevens' name on it as a memento of the occasion.

R. B. Maule, 92, of 395 DuPage st., was among the old friends of

Mr. Stevens who called to extend greetings.

Preceding the first open house on Sunday the Rev. Harold Elliott, pastor of the Wasco Baptist church, conducted a communion service at the Stevens home, for members of the family. He was assisted by the Rev. Paul Kaufman of Wheaton.

On Saturday evening, March 27, from 9:30 to 10, Station WLS in Chicago will present a radio dramatization of Mr. Stevens' colorful life, in which the voice of the centenarian will be heard over the air.

## Life of D. W. Stevens To Be Dramatized On WLS Saturday

Station WLS will pay a tribute to the most famous soldier of Wasco, Illinois, on Saturday evening, March 27, at which time the life of DeVolois W. Stevens, 100-year-old G.A.R. veteran, will be dramatized on the "Home Front" program.

Stevens is the sole surviving member of the Elgin G.A.R. Post 49 and on Monday, March 22, celebrated his one hundredth birthday. He can remember the battles of Fredericksburg and Gettysburg as vividly as a present-day soldier remembers the struggles at Guadalcanal and Gafsa.

The Saturday night broadcast will review a great portion of the life of the Stevens family. Mr. Stevens' great-grandfather, as a Revolutionary War captain, helped dump tea into the Boston harbor. A grandfather was a colonel in the war of 1812. Stevens himself, enlisted in the Civil War when 19, fought in several battles, and was wounded in the battle of the Wilderness. The family took no active part in the Spanish-American War, but a grandson was killed in the World War. Five grandsons are engaged in the present conflict.

Stevens' voice will be heard on record on the Saturday night program, to be aired from 9:30 to 10:00 p. m. Others who will participate in the broadcast include Jack Holden, Jack Stilwill and Dr. Preston Bradley, pastor of the People's Church of Chicago.

Compliments of

DeValois W. Stevens

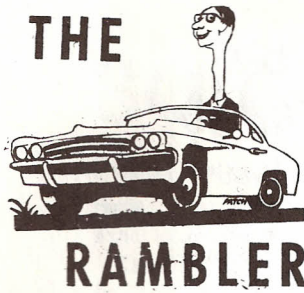
100th Birthday

1843

March 22

1943





As you drive through Wasco, you sense something different. In fact, you feel it — the air is filled with the Spirit of America. The American Flag is everywhere, on homes, stores, the school, up and down in the road.

In this community of some forty odd homes, you can see 24 flags flying, some of them by night as well as by day. "It is easily explained," says Mrs. Adrian Landreth, "there are 22 boys from Campton Township in the service, boys we have seen grow up among us and we are proud of them. We feel that to fly the flag these days is our thanks to these young men in the Service."

Mrs. Landreth is the bookkeeper at Hummel's Store in Wasco which also is the post office for the community. The Rambler knew Fred Hummel, Jr. when he first came to Wasco to take over the reins of management from his father, the store and lumber yard being formerly operated by the late Floyd Bergland whom we did not have the opportunity to know too well before he passed away.

When we were in Elburn, we considered Wasco as belonging to that community but now of course Wasco is especially a part of St. Charles since they are now in our school district. In fact, Fred Hummel Jr. is a member of the Congregational Church in St. Charles and if memory serves me correctly he did and may still be teaching in the Sunday School.

After talking to Mrs. Landreth a few minutes, we sensed that this community of Wasco had a vitality which you find in few communities. For that reason, next week, we shall

prepare a special feature of what is going on in Wasco and give these folks some well deserved recognition for what they are today.

On the evening of Tuesday, April 2, promptly at 8 p.m., at the Old Town Hall on Town Hall Road and Route 64, the town clerk will call the annual town meeting of Campton Township to order. The first order of business will be to elect a moderator. When this item of business is consummated, the moderator will then ask for the reading of the minutes of the last annual meeting by the town clerk.

At this point, Eric Johnson of Lily Lake will read the minutes for the 38th time since he was elected in 1930.

The town meeting, a hang-over from the early New England days, is taken a little bit seriously in Campton, the folks usually filling the room. These Campton folks thrive on the pure democracy as is represented by their meeting. When the reports are read by Supervisor Robert Corron and Highway Commissioner J. L. McGowan full attention is given.

Since Campton township does not possess any incorporated areas which might overshadow the rural areas, the folks are in full control. And the elective officers, Robert Corron, J. L. McGowan, Erick Johnson and Robert Anderson, the assessor appointee, listen to the complaints and pay heed. This is probably the secret of their longevity in office.

About five years ago, Mr. and Mrs. Eric Johnson retired from dairy farming activity and moved one door east to make way for their son Filip and his family which incidentally was increased by one son, Bradley, born on February 27. They already had a daughter, Lori and a son, Brent Filip. Mrs. Filip Johnson is the former Donna Benson of Elburn.

The Eric Johnsons, already well established as grandparents, were to become grandparents again on March 3 when their daughter, Ruth Helene, and her husband, Dr. Colin Kaltenbach became the parents of a son, James Earl in

far off Melbourne, Australia. Dr. Kaltenbach is on an assignment in animal research way down under" to help the Australians raise more sheep.

With his daughter so far away, Eric Johnson is resuming his amateur radio hobby which he has pursued for many years and if he is able to solve his antenna problem, he is hopeful that they may talk to his daughter and grandson sometime this year.

The Johnsons have two other children in close proximity to their home, Glen Eric who works at Burgess Norton in Geneva and Thomas who is at home but is attending Elgin Community College. Their other son, Leonard, today a civilian test pilot for helicopters at Fort Rucker in Alabama. He had previously seen service in the Army Air Force in helicopter flying.

Mrs. Johnson is now recovering but still taking therapy for her two arms which she broke at Thanksgiving time. In the meantime, while she has been disabled, her husband has been impressed into the kitchen and housekeeping duties. In fact, his hands may never have been so clean from washing dishes. Mrs. Johnson who was a school teacher came up from southern Illinois some years ago to teach in Lily Lake and she looked her future husband over from the Lily Lake school window as he worked in the fields and apparently she was impressed. At any rate, she became Mrs. Johnson.

The Johnsons are members of the Grace Lutheran Church in Elburn since the turn of the century.

Recalling a visit the Rambler made to the Johnson farm some 20 years ago, the Rambler was quite amazed to see the Pine trees planted as a windbreak about that time, now fully grown and doing the work for which nature intended them in this particular spot.

It was only natural that we should speak of the diminishing dairy farm operations in the area. Filip still continues to operate the farm with a dairy herd as has been the tradition in the family. At one time, in Lily Lake alone, there were

65 milk shippers. Milk depots were then located in Wasco, Lily Lake, Elburn, Plato Center, Maple Park, and Burlington but times have changed. Today, a few dairy herds are being kept in the area. Land is costly and labor is hard to get and that is the story since the price of milk is not yet to a point where the dairy farmer receives his just return - too much of the cost is in distribution.

It's nice to visit with these folks in Lily Lake and Wasco. We did miss the old Ray Reed general store which was the shopping center of the community at one time. Everything changes but people.

See you next week,  
The Rambler

ST. CHARLES CHRONICLE  
March 13, 1968

## Firemen Called Friday To Campton Town Hall; Damage Is Slight

Fire of an unknown origin threatened the Campton Town Hall on Friday but the blaze was extinguished by the Elburn and Countryside Department with only a small loss.

The hall, which is one of the landmarks of this area, built in 1835, is used only on special occasions and is kept under lock and key. It is believed that the fire was started either by rodents or by spontaneous combustion since it originated within the building.

July 15, 1955



# Wasco Residents Fly Flags Proudly

BY SARA JANE GOODYEAR

The people of Wasco are proud of their country.

And they're proud of the 21 boys from Canton township who are in the service, many of them fighting in Viet Nam.

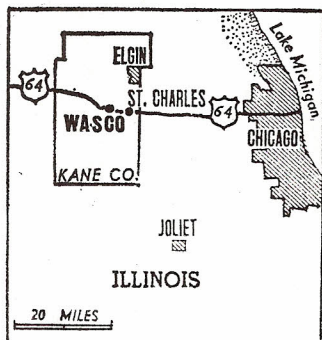
You can see that pride as soon as you drive into town, because the people of Wasco also believe in flying the flag.

## Love Their Country

Old Glory waves proudly from the blacksmith shop, the bulletin board in front of the Baptist church, and from staffs and poles in front of at least two-thirds of the 50-some homes nestled along Illinois highway 64 in the little Kane county town.

You can feel the pride of Americans who love their country when you talk to the residents of Wasco.

Mrs. Mary Landreth and her husband, Adrian, had the first



lighted flag in town. It flies 24 hours a day.

## Small Way to Say Thanks

"We fly it in honor of the boys in the service," said Mrs. Landreth. "It's our small way of saying thank you for preserving our freedom."

Fred Hummel Jr. flies a flag in front of the combination



Mrs. Mary Landreth

hardware store and office down the street from his lumber yard. That's because the postoffice is there, and the flag flies wherever a postoffice is open.

But he also flies a flag at home. That's because he believes in America and the men who fight to keep it free.

## Show Their Feelings

"I'm opposed to our boys fighting," he said. "Maybe they shouldn't even be in Viet Nam. I don't know. But they're certainly laying down their lives for us."

"What more can we do for the soldiers except show our feelings? It's not much, but at least it's a token."

Rev. G. William Bauerlein doesn't remember seeing many flags flying in front of churches.

## Asks Church Support

"But I don't see why a church shouldn't fly the flag," he said. "I feel it is a public declaration of our support of men in the service. Regardless of what we might feel political-



[TRIBUNE Staff Photo]

The Rev. G. William Bauerlein, pastor of the Wasco Baptist church.



Edna and Calvin Cray

ly, this [war] is our affair—anything our country is involved in is our affair."

In his last church, in Wisconsin, one of his congregation was a man from Scotland who flew the flag daily.

"You Americans should be ashamed of yourselves," he used to tell people," Rev. Bauerlein said. "And he was right. We should be more aware

of the privileges and honors that are ours as a nation."

Calvin Cray, Wasco's oldest resident, still does carpenter work at age 82. And he still feels quite well enough to fly his flag.

"I love the flag," he said, "and I love helping the boys. I want them to know I'm thinking of them."

Every morning before they catch the school bus the Jorgenson boys hurry out to raise the flag on the flag pole in front of their house. When they come home in the afternoon, John Jr., 12, Steven, 11, Glen, 8, and Billy, 7, take the flag down again.

## Writes Newsletter

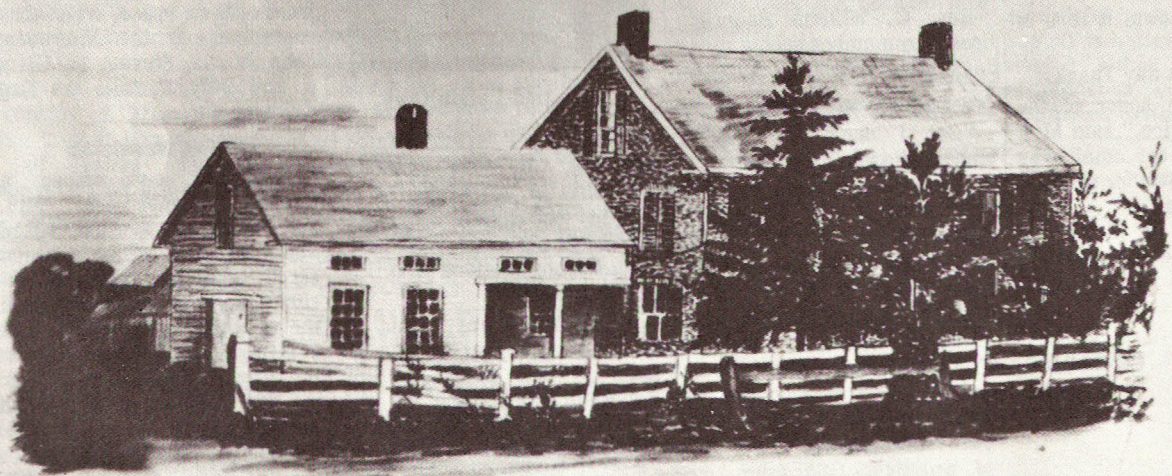
"What's a house without a flagpole?" questioned Mrs. John Jorgenson when asked about the sturdy piece of pipe set in the front yard. "Sometimes the boys are in a rush in the morning," she said, "but I always remind them about the flag. I don't like to look out the window and see an empty flagpole."

CHICAGO DAILY TRIBUNE  
March 24, 1968



My Grandfather and Grandmother.

Timothy Powers Garfield married Harriet Frost, at Mt. Holly, Vermont, October 13, 1819. Rev. Daniel Packard of the Baptist Church Mt. Holly, officiated. Timothy Garfield was a farmer, as were his ancestors; and made it his home in Mt. Holly, where eleven of his children were born, for nearly two years. In June 1841, he emigrated to northern Illinois, by the way of Erie Canal and Great Lakes to Chicago, and settled in Compton, Kane County. He died at this home, Mar. 2, 1859, and Harriet, his wife, died Nov. 3, 1869.



The Illinois Home.  
BUILT IN 1846



GEORGE BERGLAND STORE - 1890





ROBERT CORRON HOME - BUILT IN 1850





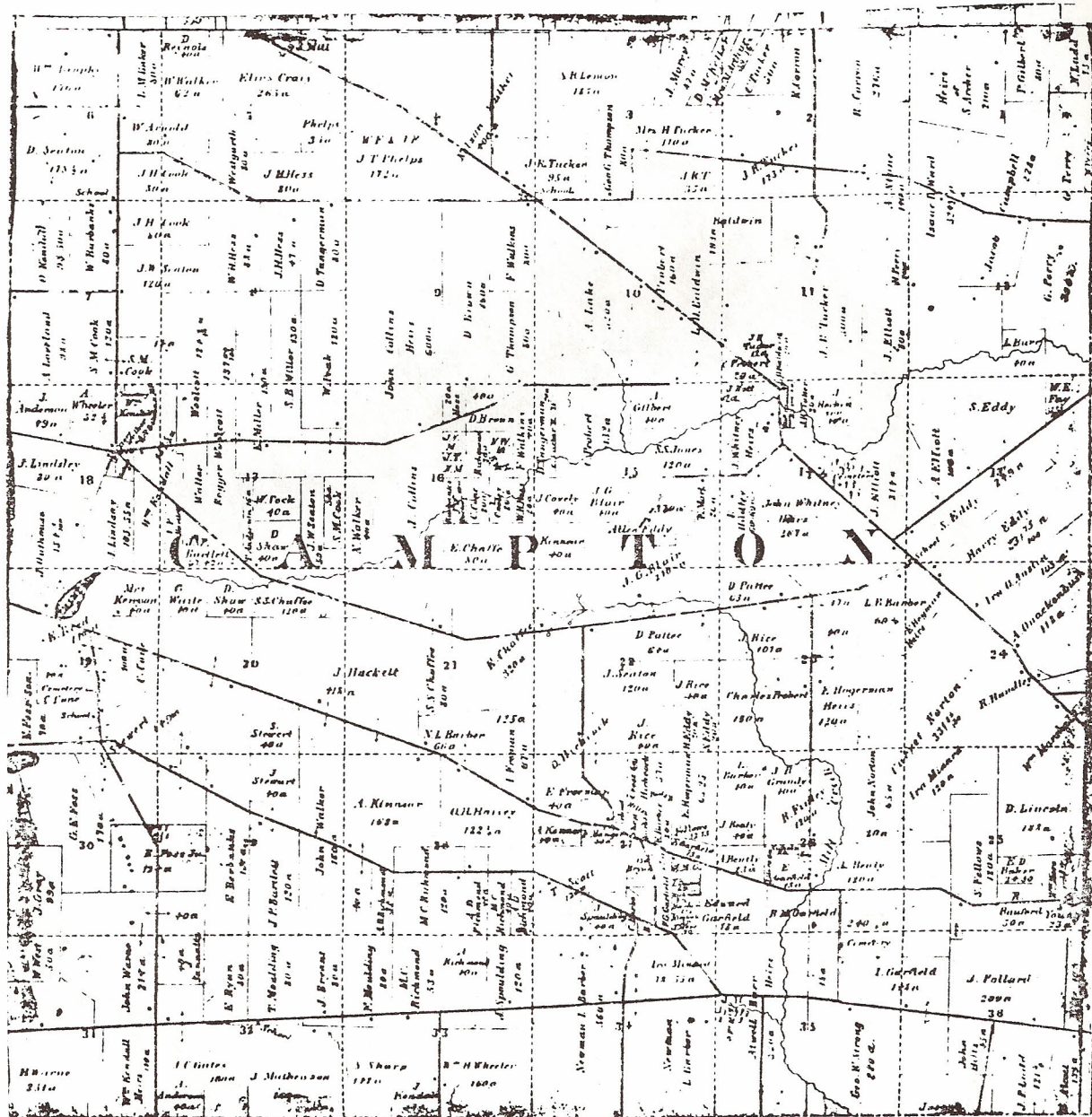


**CAMPTON CANCER CRUSADE** — Members of the 1966 Cancer Crusade in Campton Township met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Olson in Wasco last Tuesday concluding the drive in the area. During the course of this year's crusade some 42 volunteers visited more than 450 homes in Campton to discuss life-saving cancer facts and to distribute the pamphlet "Cancer and You." Attending the meeting were seated, from left: Mrs. Maurice Craft, Mrs. Calvin

Cray, Mrs. Ernest Begerman, Mrs. Walter Badger, Mrs. Verner Dahlstrom, Mrs. William Lauger, Mrs. Arthur Toney and Mrs. John A. Olson. Standing, from left, are: Mrs. Robert Corron, Mrs. John L. Brown, Mrs. Ralph Springonsgorth, Mrs. Edward Latimer, Mrs. Fred Hummel, jr., Mrs. Roger Chesnut, Mrs. Roger Ekstrom, Mrs. LeRoy Cook and Mrs. Arthur Bergquist.



1860



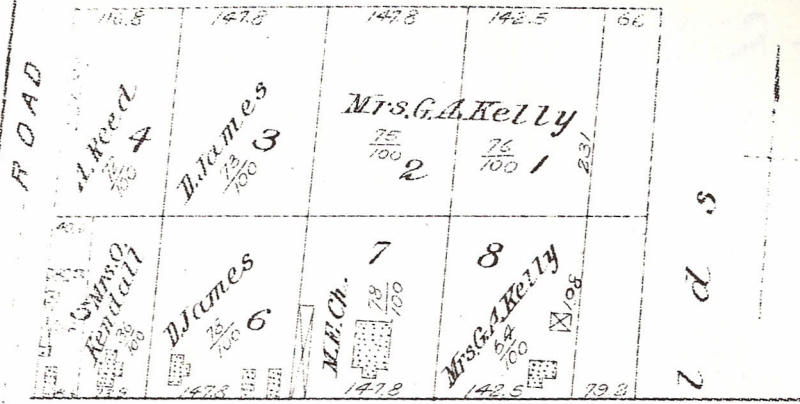


**CANADA CORNERS.**  
 CAMPTON TWP.  
 Scale 20 feet = 1 inch

*J. Fields*

*William Outhouse*

*M. J. Springer*



**PUBLIC**

**ROAD**

*R. Outhouse*

**PUBLIC**

*A. J. Smith*

*A. J. Smith*

*C. Johnson*

*C. Collins*

*J. M. Steve*

*J. F. i e*

*Residence*

*R. Outhouse*

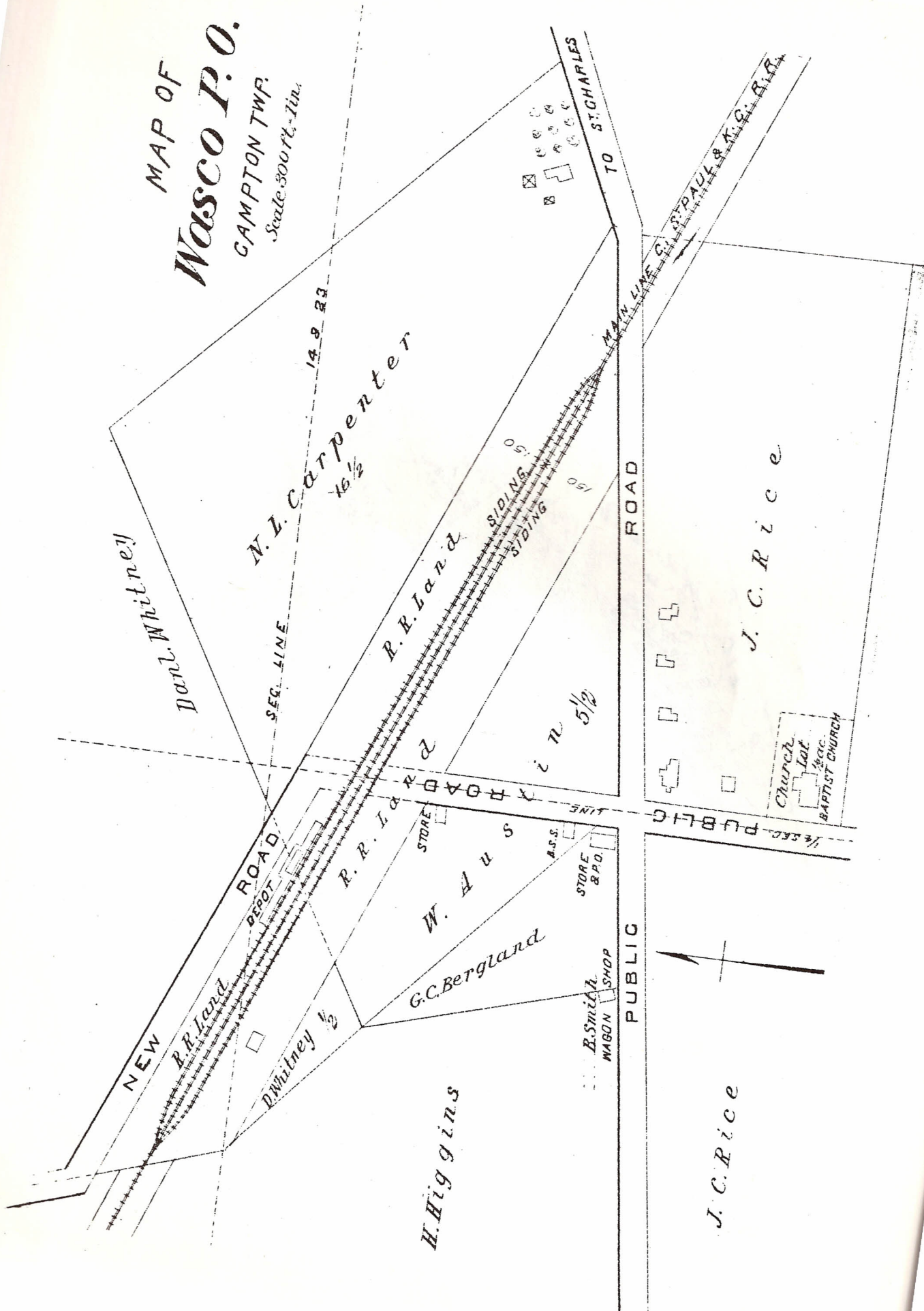
I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief, the above  
 Plat of Lily Lake, formerly known as Canada Corners, is correct.

*[Signature]*

*Tp. clerk*  
*Elburn*



MAP OF  
**Wasco P.O.**  
 CAMPTON TWP.  
 Scale 300 ft. = 1 in.



1892





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Bingo Every Monday Night at 7:30 pm — Doors Open 6:00 pm

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**The Campton Township  
Bicentennial Committee**

Joan Bowgren  
Kent DeBruycker

Sue Beary  
Julie Collins  
Joe Quartuccio